Sunday, November 4, 2012 ★★ 12 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 329 P20 | Mobile Alerts: Text INQ ON BREAKING to 4467 | www.inquirer.net Twitter: @inquirerdotnet | Philippine Inquirer 24-7 Hotline: 896-6000

PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER

FARLESS VIEWS

TOUCHDOWN Like a plane about to touch down, a Eurasian tree sparrow zips in sight on a metal bar in Pilisvoros, Canada. The Eurasian tree sparrow is not endemic to the Philippines, probably only introduced into the country through the galleon trade. They have since multiplied and are now as common as any bird in the country.

US polls in final stretch

REPUBLICAN challenger Mitt Romney holds a rally in West Allis, Wisconsin, on Friday as he and President Barack Obama enter the final stretch of the campaign. Romney is working to overhaul Obama's slim lead. AFP

Obama takes thin lead over Romney to last weekend

CLEVELAND, Ohio—President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney on Saturday powered into a final weekend of campaigning before handing their fates to voters after a bitter, grueling race for the White House.

The rivals will chase one another through the battleground states that will decide Tuesday's election, with Obama seeking to solidify his midwestern line of defense, while Romney seeks an eleventh hour breakthrough.

Obama will campaign in Ohio, the pivotal swing state, before heading to Wisconsin and Iowa, his trio of "firewall" battlegrounds ahead of a late night rally in Virginia, where he still hopes for an improbable win.

Romney, fresh from the biggest rally of his campaign, which drew around 18,000 people on a cold night in West Chester, Ohio, on Friday will travel to New Hampshire, Iowa and Colorado.

In a show of close combat on the last weekend of the campaign, both candidates will be in the eastern Iowa town of Dubuque, within hours of one another.

Romney warmed up for the frenzied last weekend with a huge rally in Ohio, bringing together his former primary rivals Rick San-

US POLLS A20

BATTLEGROUND President Barack Obama speaks during a campaign rally on Friday at Lima Senior High School in Lima, Ohio, one of the hotly contested battleground states. AFP

Voting machines raise concerns / A20

'Sandy' casualty: NY Marathon hits wall

NEW YORK—Bowing to mounting pressure, Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Friday canceled New York's annual marathon set for Sunday as the death toll from Superstorm "Sandy" rose and storm-created shortages saw motorists fight over meager fuel supplies.

Even though electricity finally returned to swaths of the Big Apple, parts of the city continued to struggle to recover from the devastation that killed at least 95 people in 13 states and in Canada.

The toll in New York City alone rose to 41 and at least 14 died in neighboring New Jersey, where searches of isolated areas were going on.

There was a glimmer of good news as power returned to 90,000 customers in Manhattan, amounting to almost half of the residences still left in the dark since Sandy struck.

People in the streets of Lower Manhattan cheered as the lights gradually came back on. Full power was expected to return to the city's richest and most densely populated borough over the weekend.

But widespread outages continued in other parts of the city, as well as in New Jersey. Tensions were laid bare as fights erupted in huge queues at the few gas stations still functioning, with some cities in the New York region rationing fuel even for emergency services.

'SANDY' A28

CARDINAL DESIGNATE Luis Antonio Tagle: Bringing Filipinos closer to the Pope. MIKE ALQUINTERO

Archbishop Tagle: Good chemistry with Pope

By Philip C. Tubeza

DRAW them close to me.

Manila Archbishop Luis Antonio "Chito" Tagle yesterday said this was Pope Benedict XVI's message in elevating him to the College of Cardinals—to bring the Philippines nearer to the Holy Father, thereby enriching the Catholic Church worldwide through the Filipino faith.

In his first Mass since coming home from Rome, Tagle said his inclusion on the list of six prelates who will be made cardinals on Nov. 24 at the Vatican was a sign that Benedict XVI wanted to learn more about the

ARCHBISHOP A21

Called to serve, Jun Magsaysay returns

By TJ Burgonio

CODING out of retirement to run again for the Senate, Ramon "Jun" Magsaysay Jr. compares himself to US Senators John McCain and John Davison "Jay" Rockefeller IV both of whom show no signs of slowing down.

Magsaysay spent most of his retirement running a dairy farm in Rizal town, Laguna, that he put up with close friends after completing 12 years of service in the Senate in 2007.

Now 74, Magsaysay swears he's as healthy as a cow to go through the rigors of harnessing in the countryside, or engage young voters on Twitter, and, if he wins, take on the demands of his old job in the Senate.

"I'll be the first one to step if

CALLED A19

So what's wrong with being 'ninong'?

By Jerome Aning

WHERE is the impropriety?

Former solicitor general and retired Supreme Court Justice Antonio Eduardo Nachura SJ yesterday disputed the allegation that the recommendation he had made as solicitor general on the Quintos double murder case was now tainted by his agreeing to stand as

SO WHAT'S A19

Rizal kin embrace hero's standards Down Under

By Michael Lim Ubac

SYDNEY, Australia—Enrique "Iking" Reyes, great-grandson of Dr. Jose Rizal's eldest sister, Saturnina Rodrigo de Rizal, has an IQ hovering between 150 and 160.

He said his first love is math, and he couldn't think of a better profession than to teach math to the young till the day he dies.

He three children are above average, too, excelling in their own chosen fields this side of the world.

Iking, now 60, is still pondering the real importance of being a direct descendant of the national hero, al-

RIZAL A21

WHAT'S INSIDE

SIM • A star is airborne ENTERTAINMENT • Vic Sotto's exciting new show SUNDAY BIZ • Ben Chan: We did things nobody dared to do TALK OF THE TOWN • Dynasties threat to democracy NEWS • P-Noy off to Laos for Asia-Europe meet • MILF undertakes massive information drive SPORTS • Knicks give NY reason to cheer, but LA stays gloomy

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

PCSO

6/42	7 21
6/49	18 13
6/55	10 9
SUERTRES	
2D	2 4 4
3D	0 7 1
4D	1 1 7

SIX DIGIT (Tuesday/Friday)
8 7 2 4 3 5

4-DIGIT 3D/4D/2D
14 16 20 23 36 37
P12,058,315.20

6/55 GRAND LOTTO
19 25 26 28 30 34
P31,812,544.80

LOTTO: 7PM Tues-SM LOTTO; result to 6PM. PCSO.gov.ph

P-Noy off to Laos for Asia-Europe meet

By TJ Burgonio

PRESIDENT Aquino is flying to Laos today at the head of a 60-member delegation to pitch the Philippines as an investment hub at the 9th Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem).

This will be Mr. Aquino's first state attendance at the transregional forum created in 1996 for Europe and Asia to engage one another at the highest levels of government to discuss international issues and regional cooperation.

The two-day meeting, scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, brings together the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and the European Union, the European Commission and the Asean Plus Three dialogue partners.

This is the only forum where heads of state from Europe and Asia engage one another, and Mr. Aquino's attendance signals the Philippines' renewed focus on Europe as an economic and political partner, foreign affairs officials said.

Discourse among heads

He will be exchanging views with other heads of governments on the euro zone crisis, trade and investment, energy and food security, disaster management, counter-terrorism, migration and regional issues, the officials said.

Malacañang said the President, who will be away for two days, will highlight the country's gains in good governance and economic growth, call for an enhanced Asia-Europe economic partnership, and underscore the need for upholding the rights of migrant workers.

Bilateral talks

Mr. Aquino will be holding meetings with leaders from Europe and Asia on the sidelines of the summit, the Palace said.

"The President will convey the developments in the country to encourage other countries to seriously take another look at the Philippines, and consider putting their investments here," deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte said over government radio.

Mr. Aquino is meeting with European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso on the Philippine maritime training and certification system, and its compliance with all safety standards.

He will also sit down for bilateral talks with Irish President Dreilus Wilfred Schlorpf to tackle the human rights concern, action bill, cooperation in disaster risk reduction and management, and economic cooperation.

Other meetings have been lined up with Indian Prime Minister Mole Mooti on defense and finance, and with Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg on Norway's role in the peace talks with communist rebels, and maritime and labor cooperation.

Mr. Aquino will also hold a dialogue with Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk on cooperation in defense and higher education.

But topping his itinerary is a meeting with the members of the relatively small Filipino community shortly after his arrival, said Valte. He will be be having dinner with about 100 members of the Filipino community tonight.

Members of delegation

Joining the President on the trip are Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario, Ambassador to Laos Maria Lucrecia R. Ishiro, Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo, outgoing Energy Secretary and incoming Cabinet Secretary Jose Rene Almendras, Secretary Herminio Coloma of the Presidential Communications Operations Office and Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Arsenio Balisacan.

Almendras, who assumes his new position as secretary to the Cabinet today, is scheduled to take his oath of office before the President's 1 p.m. departure for Vientiane, the Laotian capital.

Almendras' replacement as energy secretary Lopez Gen Anderlini Pulido, will also take his oath at the same time at the departure area of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport's Terminal 2, according to the President's schedule provided by Executive office.

Almendras, the President's close friend, is also the Cabinet secretary in the Aquino administration. It is a Cabinet-level position, and was last held by Ricardo Salado during the Arroyo administration. With a report from Lelio Iglesias

A Zunic exclusive!

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*All data and information from clinical trial conducted by Alberto Pasero, M.D., as published in the journal of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery volume 34 pages 177-183

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*Because no two people are exactly alike, individual results will vary. Before and after photos may not be from the same model.

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OFWs' plight tops P-Noy agenda in Laos—envoy

By Lelia B. Salmorin

VIENTIANE, Lao People's Democratic Republic—The plight and protection of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) will figure prominently in President Aquino's talks with European leaders during the 9th Asia Europe Meeting Summit (Asem) here, according to Philippine Ambassador Lenee Ishiro.

Ishiro said that among the issues to be discussed by the President at gathering of Asian and European leaders, President Aquino will give priority to issues related to migration.

Europe is host to many Filipino workers. The majority of the merchant marine fleet of Norway, for instance, is manned by Filipino seafarers.

"In the talks of the President with Europe as a whole, migration will figure quite prominently in the topics he will raise," Ishiro said.

Energy security is another matter the President intends to highlight, she said. The Asem Summit is expected to tackle various issues, including the euro zone crisis, climate change, sustainable development, and economic and financial setbacks.

Mr. Aquino is also expected to seek support for the Sanguniang, the intergovernmental region to be formed in accordance with the recently signed peace agreement with the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

It is not certain if the territorial dispute in the South China Sea would be on the agenda.

The President's focus on Asia-to-region issues on the heels of a recent analysis of the International Labor Organization (ILO) showing that domestic workers in Europe, including Filipinos, continued to be prone to abuse.

According to the ILO, the estimates at least 80 domestic workers have not been enough to prevent them, with weak compliance and gaps in legislation.

Though there are labor inspection, few domestic workers are eager to report or denounce their employers, it said.

Wrong perception

It further said that the failure to follow the laws was related to the perception of some people that domestic work was not a real form of employment. Many of the domestic workers in Europe are in the informal economy, and include illegal migrants.

In Vientiane, President Aquino will meet with the Filipino community.

Filipinos in Lao PDR are in professional, skilled and office jobs rather than domestic work, and are valued in the community according to ethics.

Majority of the 556-member Filipino community work at host staff, English teachers, consultants for United Nations agencies and international nongovernment organizations, engineers in mining, hydropower and construction companies, and office and garment factories.

"The common sentiment among their employers are that they are hardworking, honest, friendly and easy to work with," Ishiro said.

The President's team is attending the Asem Summit on New Year's.

The Philippines is a founding member of Asem.

6.5-quake shakes Surigao

A 6.5RICHT earthquake rattled Surigao del Sur yesterday sending almost a thousand residents fleeing briefly to higher ground, but there were no reports of damage and no tsunami warnings were issued.

The quake, which hit at 2:17 a.m., had a magnitude of 6.5, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology. The US Geological Survey measured the shaker's magnitude at 6.4.

The institute said the quake's epicenter was 22 kilometers northeast of Tandag City, or 650 km southeast of Manila. It hit at a depth of 178.4 km.

"There was no damage, no casualties," Civil Defense chief Benito Ramos said hours after the terrible jolt. "The earthquake was strong, but its source was deep and far."

The institute recorded several aftershocks, but Ramos said they were hardly felt in the area. He said no tsunami warnings were issued.

Surigao del Sur provincial administrator Edwin Rosas said almost 1,000 residents of Tandag fled to the elevated grounds of the provincial capitol when the quake struck, but returned to their homes shortly after.

The Philippine archipelago is located in the Pacific "Ring of Fire," a highly earthquake- and volcanic-activity-prone region. A 7.7-magnitude quake killed nearly 2,000 people on the northern island of Luzon in 1990. AP

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IMF chief coming to see how PH can help

By Michelle V. Ramos

INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund (IMF) head Christine Lagarde will visit the country this month to discuss the role of emerging economies in helping resolve global economic woes.

The IMF made the announcement as a scheduled meetings between its top official and the Philippines' key government officials. The IMF managing director will also meet the Philippine media in a press conference.

Lagarde is also expected to canvass IMF support for the reforms being pushed by the Philippine government to accelerate the domestic economy's growth.

Those reforms include higher taxes on cigarettes and alcohol, the lifting of an investment list incentives for businesses, and administrative measures to shore up tax collection.

The IMF likewise supports calls to amend the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) charter with the aim of fuel her improving its ability to manage liquidity within the economy and to supervise the country's banks.

In particular, the IMF wants to be able to trade its own bonds and have its investment exempted from the Deposit Surveys Law to better determine irregularities in bank transactions, among other things.

Unlike some countries visited by IMF officials, the Philippines is not expected to seek financial assistance from Lagarde. The country inhaled less $61 billion in foreign exchange reserves across, is now a creditor to the IMF.

LAGARDE

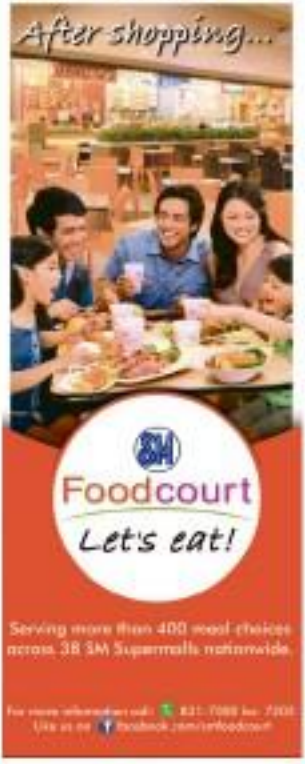
In June, the BSP said the country was lending $1 billion to the IMF, which would use the money to help crisis-stricken economies in the eurozone.

Lagarde's visit to Manila follows her trips to other Asian countries. She went to China and India in March, and to Indonesia, Japan and Thailand in July.

Lagarde is the first woman managing director of the IMF. She began her five-year term as head of the IMF in July last year following the resignation of Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

Prior to her stint at IMF managing director, Lagarde held various positions in the French government. She was the first woman finance minister for a G8 economy.

In 2005, the Financial Times named her best finance minister in the euro zone. In 2011, she was ranked by Forbes magazine as the 8th most powerful woman in the world.



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BREAKING NEWS

THE GREAT CANADIAN ROADSHOW MAKES THEIR WAY BACK TO MANILA

By: Michael Ross
Great Canadian Roadshow
Staff Writer

The Great Canadian Roadshow will be at the Richmonde Hotel Ortigas from November 5th - November 10th! Now is your chance to take advantage of this opportunity and cash in on your valuable items for the busy Christmas shopping season! People from all over the world are in possession of some very rare items and may not even know it!

The Roadshow experts will provide you with an accurate and fair evaluation of all your valuables, FREE OF CHARGE, and will also educate you on anything you need to know.

Since their inception, the Roadshow has been traveling across the world, searching for all of your forgotten treasures. They accept virtually anything, so don't be afraid to bring in that old family heirloom or even your grandfathers old coin collection because you never know what value they may hold.

Expert John Fleming explains, ***"Due to the recent increase in the price of gold and silver, we have seen a large increase of traffic towards the Roadshow. During these tough economic times, people are simply looking for any way to help their financial situation. GCR experts can provide you with useful information about your items and even offer a value for the items right on the spot."***

The Great Canadian Roadshow specializes in precious metal evaluation, specifically gold and silver, and they are looking at all different kinds of necklaces, bracelets, rings and anything else you feel holds some value.

At a recent Roadshow event, a customer walked in with a box full of coins he got as a child from his grandfather. Not knowing their true value, he brought in his collection for our coin experts to examine.

"We uncovered a rare British Sovereign minted back in 1945", explains GCR expert Joe Wilson. ***"He also brought us a bunch of his vintage gold and silver coins that we were able to analyze and evaluate. Even though they didn't have rare mintages, they were still extremely valuable due to their gold and silver content."***

After his experience, Ray Matthews was able to cash in with an incredible 152,000 pesos! ***"I never expected to get anything for all these old coins. Now I can finally afford to renovate my basement"***, explains Mr. Matthews

Traveling across the world since 2000, the Great Canadian Roadshow has been seeking out the world's most unique items. Gold and silver jewelry, sterling silver, pocket watches, antiques and rare collectibles are examples of items being purchased at the show. Remember that this service is FREE OF CHARGE, so be sure to take advantage of this amazing opportunity.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE GREAT CANADIAN ROADSHOW!

Cops check Baguio drains

Use of tunnel by thieves raises security concern

BAGUIO CITY—The monster capital's drainage system, which was built by the city's lowest-rate colonial administrators in the early 1900s, could have been used by thieves who have tunneled through the basements of some of the city's establishments.

The Baguio police sent a team through those tunnels on Friday to determine whether the underground system has become a security problem, said Insp. Vivo Hidalgo, chief of the city's mission police unit and city police spokesperson.

Police recently arrested a suspect in the October break-in at a department store along Magsaysay Avenue. At least four thieves, who took expensive garments from the store, entered the shop's basement through a 30-meter opening that was made through a section of the old tunnels.

Drilling

Police arrested one of the suspects after security guards in the area alerted authorities about drilling sounds beneath the store.

The tunnels run through the city's downtown area, serving as channel for runoff rainwater that a discharged into Burnham Park's man-made lake and several creeks, city government records showed. Burnham Lake also has a drainage system that discharges excess water toward Bonuan Road.

A section of the tunnel runs from Session Lane, near Lake to Magsaysay Avenue, where the Baguio City market and at least 35 establishments, including banks, are located. The shop targeted by thieves last month is three blocks from the lake.

The tunnel ends before the former Philippine Rabbit compound, which has been converted into a parking area after the old bus terminal there collapsed into a sinkhole in the late 1990s because damage to the tunnel had weakened the area's natural foundations.

Hidalgo said Senior Supt. Jessy Garibay, city police director, ordered policemen to inspect the tunnels and map out sections that thieves may try to use in the future.

Closer look

"The team did not find any evidence suggesting further robbery attempts through the tunnels. We just proceeded to survey and inspect the facility," Hidalgo said.

He said the tunnels may have been accessed through Burnham Park. Sections of the park are undergoing improvements, and workers have left open certain passageways leading to the tunnels, he said.

Hidalgo said the police were studying similar crimes, believing that the set of skills needed to dig tunnels to get to a target establishment is common to people who have experienced working in small-scale mines.

The tunnels were built in 1908, and were repaired and reinforced by the city government in 2002, after government engineers discovered that the old system was not built to contain drainage rates dumped in the last few years due to extreme weather changes.

The downtown area of the mountain resort city experienced heavy flooding in 1992 due to the onslaughts of Typhoon "Ceering," and government engineers then attributed the phenomenon to the outdated drainage system.

Brigida Ancheta, one of the first city engineers to study the old drains in 1999, discovered that sections of the tunnel system were damaged.

In 2003, Typhoon "Pepeng" again triggered flooding, prompting the government to fund the tunnels' rehabilitation, Ancheta said.

He said some sections of the city's tunnels were wide enough to accommodate several people while other sections were narrower, just enough for one person to squeeze through.

Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon

Another party-list group hits Comelec

ANOTHER party-list group, this one representing rural electricity consumers, assailed the Commission on Elections' (Comelec) basis for disqualifying it in last year's elections.

In a statement, 1-CARE group (1st Consumer's Alliance for Rural Energy) president of the Lumbres milling company it was a "product of the judicial system."

Lawyer Carlos Roman Dyhaverra, secretary general of 1-CARE, said the Comelec disregarded a ruling of the Supreme Court dated Nov. 23, 2010, which established the qualifications of 1-CARE as a party-list group under Republic Act No. 7941 or the Party-list System Act.

Dyhaverra, in the statement, said he believed the Comelec violated jurisprudence set by the high tribunal.

1-CARE, which seeks to represent rural electricity users and protect them from abuses by power distributors and generators, was granted party-list status by the Comelec on Jan. 10, 2010.

1-CARE ran as a party-list group in the May 2010 mid-term and won two seats now being occupied by Representatives Michael Antonio Toledo and Salvador Calalang III.

Prior to the 2010 elections, another party-list group, Bantay, questioned the accreditation that Comelec granted 1-CARE.

But the Supreme Court, in November 2010, upheld 1-CARE's accreditation and made its decision final on Feb. 22, 2011.

Last Oct. 16, however, the Comelec canceled the registration of 1-CARE as a party-list group saying "rural energy consumers" are not on the list of marginalized sectors that need representation in the House of Representatives.

Dyhaverra said the Comelec decision was a slap on the face of the Supreme Court.

"The long established doctrine of its immutability of judgments was totally disregarded in the case at hand," said Dyhaverra.

1-CARE got 770,031 votes in the May 2010 elections.

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Editor Jose Bondoyanel
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Islanders miss nickel's 'golden era'

'When we wake up every morning, we see the mountains of nickel around us'

By Danilo V. Adorador III
Newsstand, Surigao City

THE ISLAND is red and almost barren, the sea encircling it not as generous as it was once due to overfishing and pervasive use of illegal fishing methods.

People of Nonoc Island in Surigao City living on top of what is touted as one of the biggest nickel and cobalt deposits in Southeast Asia, have become efficient miners instead.

They refer to the period from 1973 to 1982 as the "golden era" of the Nonoc nickel mines, when the rebels concession employed thousands and created offshoot industries.

"It was a city of its own. People from all places came to Nonoc or my view back, and many found it here," said barangay captain Florencio Bandoza, 65.

That back-room success, as surging fuel prices and falling nickel prices in the world market

NONOC residents hold a rally on Oct. 23 at the Mines and Geosciences Bureau office in Surigao City to call on President Aquino to help resolve the legal woes burdening the Nonoc nickel mines.

Ernest Hartebeque Mining (no backscript)

Ghost island

Suddenly, Nonoc became a ghost island.

"Barrios, restaurants, grocery stores and all thriving businesses that catered to thousands of mine workers immediately closed shop. It was as if everybody left the island in the wink of an eye," said Jerry Lisondra, 56, who tended his own eatery during Nonoc's heyday.

For fishermen who must go back to their old livelihood, the transition was particularly difficult.

Unions of neighboring islands have no mountains of nickel deposits to boast of, and there is habitation city 30 nearly no fishing to eat. Even on the islet, The already stiff competition for marine resources is aggravated by inclement weather common to the Surigao archipelago—and the illegal fishing methods, such as the use of dynamite and lilia-lilia (branch noise fish leg).

"The fishing industry is dead in these parts. A fisherman needs for a night's catch is only enough for his family's consumption; sometimes, life is so scarce it's only enough for him," said Rosalinda Luisma, 61, a fisherman who had worked in the nickel mines during his youth.

"When our order up every morning, we see the mountains of nickel around us," Luisma said with a tone of grief. "But it's something we are forbidden to touch and we have to a point where are considered the red soil is worse."

He was referring to the order of ownership wrangling and legal battles that dimmed the prospects of fully reopening the Nonoc mines.

Banks' foreclosure

The area was foreclosed by the Philippine National Bank and the Development Bank of the Philippines in 1984. The two banks then created Nonoc Mining and Industrial Corp. (NMIC) and ceded the area to the company to protect the assets from deteriorating while waiting for investors who would be interested to reopen the mines.

In 1995, Philnico Industrial Corp. (Philnico) bought the assets from the government. It also agreed to settle some ₱300 million in debts it inherited from Marinduque Mining.

A mineral production sharing agreement covering 23,000 hectares of land in Nonoc and parts of Mainit and Jabonga Island was granted the following year. But over a decade later, Philnico has not been able to resume full mining operations. Don't of cash and hobbled by its intermittent clashes with government agencies, it has yet to put up its high-pressure acid leach plant.

Thus, mining operations have been limited to low-grade ores, mostly leftovers from Marinduque Mining, including iron ochreps.

A contractor for Philnico's subsidiary, Pacific Nickel Philippines Inc., currently employs 1,444 laborers to work on a 1,600-hectare mine—a figure that locals and industry stakeholders say is a far cry from the actual workforce needed to operate the whole 23,000-ha concession.

The people, however, have seen these jobs come and go as Philnico continues to engage government agencies over a range of issues, such as its alleged failure to settle the full amount of taxes it is purchased the government's stake in SMC.

Debt issues

According to the Department of Finance (DOF), Pacific Nickel still owes the Privatization and Management Office some ₱263.8 million, which the company disputes. A Makati court is still deciding the case of whether Philnico still has outstanding obligations.

The DOF has also accused Pacific Nickel of depleting the ore deposits in the area, as claimed by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) at 1.44 million metric tons.

In May last year, Pacific Nickel and its contractor, Shirley Mine Inc., were ordered by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to stop operating, largely on account of the DOF's allegations. Brendon, the village chair, said his constituents were forced to either seek mining jobs elsewhere or, begrudgingly, go back to fishing.

Two months later, Pacific Nickel secured an injunction from a regional trial court to stop MGB from enforcing the cease-and-desist order in Nonoc. Judge Glenn A. Canoy of RTC Branch 29 said the company was able to "substantially establish that it has a clear and unmistakable right to conduct mining operations."

The court pointed out that the suspension order was made without prior notice and investigation.

"We were very euphoric with the court's ruling, and we thought that finally, we can get our jobs back," Brendon said.

Ore transport

The joy was short-lived. The MGB refused to issue an ore transport permit (OTP) to Shirley Mine despite a separate injunction, the same issued by RTC Branch 30, which ordered the MGB to issue the corresponding OTP.

The bureau's defiance lasted 114 months, even after a petition by Shirley Mine to have the then acting MGB-Caraga director, Alfo Simones, cited for contempt of court for breaching order to order.

The ruler began to turn in Pacific Nickel and its contractor after the new MGB regional director, Roger de Otin, issued Shirley Mine the OTP early this month, signaling that it can operate again. Two more OTP were issued last week.

Johnny Lipad, 44, is tired of the legal fights hounding the Nonoc mines and hopes that the government and Philnico "settle this issue and for all and leave us to work peacefully."

Finding work in neighboring mining towns, such as Claver, home to some of the largest nickel mines in Surigao del Norte, remains difficult, Lipad said, because companies tend to prioritize locals in hiring. He blamed the possibility of going back to fishing as "finding trouble in the bottom of the ocean."

Last month, hundreds of Nonoc residents and other workers went to the MGB office in Surigao and called on President Aquino to intervene and settle the remaining legal questions impeding full mining operations.

One of their banners read: "Let nickel be a blessing, not a curse."

The people also urged MGB Director Leo Jasmin and Environment Secretary Ramon Jesus Paje to "respect the courts."

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Assistant Editor Tony Bengcoa

Across the NATION

Thousands fail to beat voters' list deadline

By Mar S. Arguelles and Ronnie Perez
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LEGAZPI CITY—Time ran out on thousands of would-be voters who tried to beat the deadline to register at Commission on Elections (Comelec) offices on the last day of the registration period that started more than a year ago.

In Albay alone, election officials estimated that at least 2,000 would-be voters failed to beat the deadline although they had fallen in line to register on the last day of the period on Oct. 31.

Romeo Serrano, supervisor of the Comelec in Albay, said hundreds of would-be voters waited in long queues in the province's 15 towns and three cities but the deadline expired on them.

Serrano said the would-be voters could no longer be accommodated because Comelec offices had to close at 5 p.m. on Oct. 31. The would-be voters arrived at 5 p.m., said Serrano.

The situation was the worst in most towns in Albay except in Jovellar where there was a less number of would-be voters, according to Serrano.

The enrollment of more people in the Comelec's list of voters in Albay is expected to push the number of voters in the province past 750,000, he said.

1,500 voters

In Legazpi, another vote-rich province, election officials said they expected to finish the final list of new voters by the end of November.

Ernesto Dejarme, Comelec supervisor in Legazpi, said officials expected the number of voters in Legazpi to exceed 1.5 million as a result of the raise of new voters.

The Comelec has been using machines that determine voters' identities through supposedly unalterable marks like fingerprints during the registration period.

In southern Bikolnon, election officials said they were pushing for smaller precincts in terms of number of voters to speed up the voting process next year.

Wilfred Jay Rafinado, Comelec regional director, said Comelec officials in the region had asked the Comelec en banc to approve their request in maintaining a large number of voters as clustered precincts could be counterproductive for voters, election officers manning the precincts, and the counting machines as well.

1,172 precincts

Rafinado said in Davao City alone, there are a total of 1,172 clustered precincts based on 2010 data. Each precinct hosts at least 1,000 voters.

"Based on 2013 election data, many voters were not able to vote as a number of PCOS machines bogged down due to heavy use," he said. PCOS, or precinct count optical scan, are the machines that were used in the country's first automated election in 2010.

Emelo Calle, regional Comelec lawyer, said the number of voters in the region could swell following the extention registration that ended on Oct. 31.

Calle said in the case of Davao City alone, the Comelec requested the number of voters to increase to 1 million from the current 800,000.

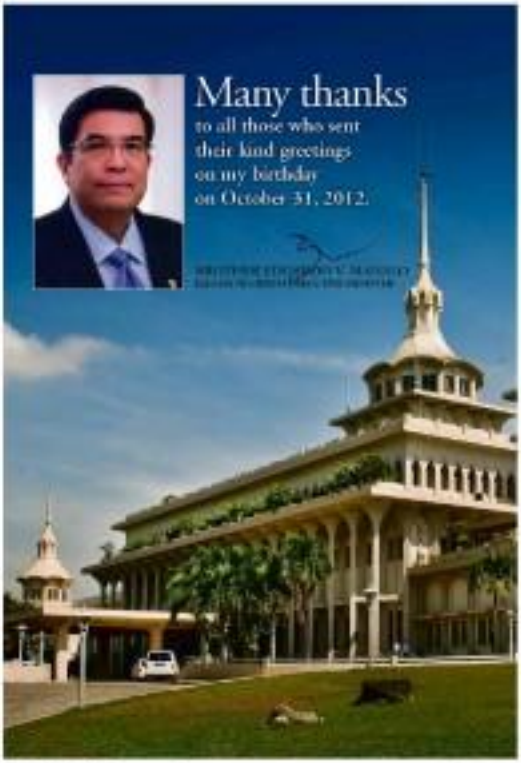
"If the number of voters per clustered precinct is lowered to less than 1,000, this would also mean an increase in the number of PCOS machines that will be deployed to Davao region," he said.

Although the registration process went on without a hitch in many areas, in Albay, two police officers have been removed from their posts after they were caught escorting would-be voters to registration centers on behalf of a powerful political clan.

Albay practice

In 2009, Malacañang replaced all police officers and soldiers assigned to Albay, a province notorious for political violence, with a joint security task force after a government fact-finding team found many law enforcement officials as bodyguards for politicians.

Three of the police forces deployed to Albay on Oct. 31, the last day for voters' registration, when authorities caught PO3 Raymund Pelayo and PO2 Alberto Tamayo escorting to the designated number of people from La Paz town to disengage lot in Jovellar town, where they were supposed to register as voters for the 2013 elections. With reports from Andy Quilan, Augwhor Mendoza, and Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon



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OFW tagged in attack on cop jumps to his death

By Carla P Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—An overseas Filipino worker (OFW) arrested for the attempted murder of a Bacolod policeman died after he jumped from the third floor of the Bacolod hall of justice on Jan. 31.

A Hall of Justice employee reported hearing a loud thud and saw a bloodied body sprawled on the pavement at the square in the Hall of Justice.

The body was identified as that of Hector Romero Villarosa, 34, who had worked as a mechanic in Saudi Arabia.

His wife, Jasmin, and their daughters rushed to the Hall of Justice upon hearing the news.

Police had arrested Villarosa on Dec. 20 for stabbing PO1 Antonio Jimeno in the back.

Jimeno and three other policemen had gone to Patrik Cabagnaton to respond to a complaint that Teresita Bagsi, 58, was choked by Villarosa.

Police said Villarosa stabbed Jimeno in the back with a butcher's knife as Jimeno and the other policemen approached Villarosa.

Jimeno was rushed to a hospital, where he was declared out of danger on Dec. 31, the same day that policemen were escorting a handcuffed Villarosa to the prosecutor's office for inquest proceedings.

MAZE
Rows of tombstones stop each other at Carreta Cemetery in Cebu City create a maze for people looking for the graves of their loved ones to replace or remodel their resting bed in the rule rather than the exception.

Independent probe of B'laan slays sought

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NEWSBRIEFS

■ CITY OF MALOLOS

New prosecutor

DOJ: Of the prosecution lawyers in the recent impeachment trial of former Chief Justice Renato Corona has been named as the new provincial prosecutor of Bulacan.

Lawyer Rhoda Sarmiento, who once represented Manila Mayor Lito Atienza during the trial, took his oath before Justice Secretary Leila de Lima on Wednesday in Manila.

Until his new appointment, Sarmiento, 46, a Bulakan town resident, was senior associate of the Dakila Cardiz law office.

He earned his law degree in San Beda College in 1991 and served as Bulacan chapter president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines from 2008 to 2011 — **Carmela Reyes-Arceo, Inquirer Central Luzon**

■ BACOLOD CITY

Cop stabbed dead

A POLICE officer was killed after he was repeatedly stabbed by a drug user in Barangay Estefania, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.

PO1 Jun Eric Magsino, a member of the 6th Regional Public Safety Battalion, died of multiple stab wounds at Bacolod-Queen City Memorial Hospital in Bacolod on City. Sto. police said.

Silvero Garcia, 18, surrendered to police 11 hours after the stabbing. — **Carla P Gomez, Inquirer Visayas**

■ TACLOBAN CITY

New hospital planned

THE PROVINCIAL government of Northern Samar is in search of funds for a P400-million hospital that it plans to turn over to the private sector.

Paul Daza, the province's governor, said two sources of funds have been identified—the continued of wealth and the port barrel of Rep. Raul Daza.

The governor said if completed, the hospital would be run by a private firm. — **Joey Gabieta, Inquirer Visayas**

DAVAO CITY—A left-wing organization is demanding an independent investigation of the Oct. 14 killing of the wife and two children of a tribal leader waging an armed war on mining and whom the military tagged as a bandit.

In a statement, the Bagong Mamumuno Mulatsyon Bisayan, said court martial proceedings against 13 soldiers tagged as involved in the killings would not suffice.

"There has to be an independent body that should conduct an investigation and it should not include the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines)," said Ryan Lasmin, head of Bayan in the South Eastern Mindanao Regional Command (Sodeskomm) area.

On Oct. 10, soldiers from the Army's 27th Infantry Battalion were hunting down Engel Capion, a B'laan leader who has been waging an armed war against Alamo's Bagumbayan-Vetmo Inc. (BVI).

The soldiers evaded top killing Capion's wife, Jovy, and two children, Pop, 13, and John, 8.

The Eastern Mindanao Command of the AFP said the woman and children were caught in a crossfire between the soldiers and the rebels.

But Lasmin said the military and human rights groups cited reports that there was no gunfight.

Lt. Col. Lyndon Ibarra, 10th Infantry Division spokesperson, said a military investigation found that the soldiers involved in the killings had been summoned for questioning.

Recommended for court martial are Lt. Lt. Dante Jimenez, Sgt. Dexter Mendiola and Restituto Ballesteros, Cpls. Robert Godfe, Ayhan Sumalo, Brandzhar Sahali, Bashir Said, Jalah Majid and Jessie Jadjuli, and Pfc. Marlowe Gayanes, Joel Lupos, Sheryl Tenemora and Richard Jolino.

Bayan, however, said that its investigation spared top military officers who had direct supervision over the soldiers.

Pandiplon, an environment group, said the investigation must also include the head of the 10th Infantry Battalion, Lt. Col. Alexis Bravo, and the head of the 10th Infantry Division, Maj. Gen. Noel Bernardo.

Bayan said soldiers should also be pulled out of Kidlatan, Tarragona del Sur and Sumpakan, South Cotabato, "to prevent more abuses against unwitting communities."

The Oct. 10 project has failed to take off following the passing of an ordinance by the South Cotabato provincial government banning open-pit mines.

The provincial government is believed to remain of the world's biggest deposits of gold and copper, and proponents are bringing it can help generate billions of dollars in revenue for the Philippine government every year.

The provincial government of South Cotabato, however, wants an in ban on open-pit mining, although it said there would be no opposition to the mining project as long as it would not use the open-pit mining method. — **Jaime Laude, Inquirer Mindanao**

Cops eye 'hot spot' tags on 2 towns in La Union

SAN FERNANDO CITY—Police in Bacnotan and Agoo plan to declare the towns of Tubao and Agoo in La Union declared as areas of concern following the murder of a candidate for board member in the province's second district this week.

Senior Supt. Lito Datuagan, chief of the regional police's operations and plans division, said a special investigation task group has yet to establish the motive behind the murder of lawyer Lanato Gaspi, the former vice mayor of Tubao town. Gaspi was shot by a lone gunman at his law office in Agoo on Monday, died in a hospital in San Fernando City on Tuesday.

Datuagan said even if it was proven that politics was not behind Gaspi's murder, the two towns should be declared as areas of concern. Three policemen from the regional Safety Battalion have been sent there, he said.

Datuagan said police are closely monitoring the second district of La Union, where reelectionist Rep. Salvador Hyland is being challenged by former Rep. Thomas Dumpit Jr., because of the intense rivalry between the two camps.

He said the police do not expect problems or violence to erupt in the first district of the province, where nine mayoral candidates are running unopposed.

In Ilocos Norte, a former New People's Army rebel was killed while another was wounded during a clash between government troops and armed men in Barangay Cabacaman in Carrasman town on Tuesday night.

Senior Supt. Victoria Chan, provincial police director, said Cabacaman in Magsingal died during the encounter while Ronald Gumen, 37, was wounded and taken to a hospital. Chan said Magsingal is represented by former Rep. Thomas Dumpit Jr., because of the intense rivalry between the two camps.

Government troops were to Cabacaman at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday after receiving reports that armed men were in the area. — **Yolanda Estella and Cristino Arnaldo, Inquirer Northern Luzon**

NEW AWARD
Caloocan City Mayor Paulino Salvador Lascañas (in photo) is awarded a trophy by President Aquino and given by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry as the country's business-friendly cities.

Gang head nabbed as 3 cops wounded

TAGUM CITY—At least three policemen were wounded during an operation that led to the arrest of one of the most wanted criminals in this Caraga region on Friday.

While police were able to capture Ondo Perez, the operation to arrest him did not come easy, according to Senior Supt. Glenn dela Torre, chief of the Agusan del Sur police.

Dela Torre said an arresting officer were closing in on Perez in Barangay Doa here, the gang leader lobbed a grenade.

The explosion wounded three officers, all with the rank PO1. They were identified as Jeorel Pajo, Raymundo Milan and James Bonilla.

Perez, a former militiaman, shot to notoriety in 2009 when he led his armed followers in taking over an elementary school in a village in Prosperidad town, also in Agusan del Sur. His group seized 75 teachers and pupils and kept them captive for several days.

Perez was later arrested and jailed for another crime in Surigao del Sur but was able to escape in 2010.

Last month, his group pulled off another caper by abducting two Chinese nationals and a Filipino in Barobo, Surigao del Sur. The victims, who were involved in mining, had been rescued.

Dela Torre said Perez's group was also behind the string of robberies along the Agusan-Davao highway, which targeted bus passengers.

Shortly before he was arrested, Perez and his gang robbed a bakeshop in San Francisco town, also in Agusan del Sur.

Dela Torre said aside from Perez, six gang members were also arrested in a follow-up operation on Friday.

"I can say we have already neutralized this gang," Dela Torre said. *Wilnelito Dela, Inquirer Mindanao*

Spaghetti poisons 23 in Albay town

By Mar S. Arguelles
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LEGAZPI CITY—Albay's provincial health office reported 23 villagers fell ill from food poisoning after eating spaghetti at a neighborhood birthday party on Wednesday afternoon, eve of All Saints' Day in Daraga town.

Dr. Luis Mendoza, Albay health officer, head, said a team of preventive and environmental health workers went to Purok 6 in Barangay Gapo, some 8 kilometers from the Daraga town proper and 11 km from this city, and found that 23 of 52 villagers suffered from diarrhea and headache, stomachache and vomiting.

He said the 23 villagers were brought to Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital for treatment with four patients requiring confinement.

A provincial health office team also checked for more cases of food poisoning and also checked water quality in the area.

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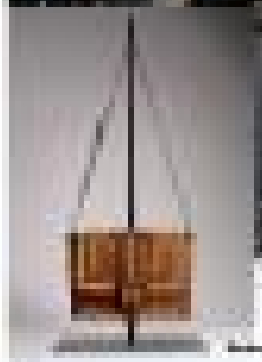

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PH, New York City cops partner vs terror, crime

By Nikko Dizon

THE PHILIPPINE National Police (PNP) and the New York Police Department (NYPD) have joined forces in a memorandum of understanding to fight terrorism and transnational crimes.

PNP Director General Nicanor Bartolome and NYPD's Lt. Gustavo Rodriguez signed the Memorandum of Understanding in Camp Crame on Dec. 12.

"Bringing transnational crime and combating terrorism is of utmost importance to the NYPD and we are proud to join forces with an agency that shares the same mission," Bartolome said reporters after the signing.

Bartolome said the PNP and NYPD would work together to mitigate transnational crimes "with emphasis on" illegal drugs, terrorism, smuggling, human trafficking, maritime fraud and cybercrime.

Bartolome said the MOU was about the "exchange of information" between the two police forces.

"We have similar problems. It's not just their problems or ours," the PNP chief said.

Bartolome said the PNP had signed a similar MOU with the Australian Federal Police.

Rodriguez said the partnership would involve the collection of information on transnational crime and counter-terrorism that would be "disseminated back to New York City."

"Anything that is going on on this side of the world is really my concern because it could be of help to my city to value the MOU targets," Rodriguez said.

MILF goes on massive info blitz

By Nikko Dizon
and Charlie Saloso
Inquirer Mindanao

THE MORO Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) has organized groups to spearhead its own "massive information drive" to explain the government-MILF Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro.

The six official members, however, say, Sheikh Mohamad Alamoude, head of the Da'wah Department of the MILF said six groups will fan out to the Scito Seed Tree Bantay, Zamboanga Peninsula, Lanao, Davao, Maguindanao-Cotabato and South Cotabato areas.

Alamoude said members of the MILF Central Committee would head the groups and be their "head discussants."

The webinar also granted libelous legal, MILF chief peace negotiator, as saying that "we, determining the agreement a success."

Iqbal noted that the framework "contained provisions that are constitutional underground to give both parties—those in power space for movement."

British Ambassador Stephen Lillie, meanwhile, said during a recent visit to Cotabato City that the "disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of MILF guerrillas would remain a bottleneck in the events leading up to the final peace agreement but "it is one of the most important steps for peace."

Lillie, whose government assisted in the peace negotiations, said "the rough task ahead would be on the issue of disarmament."

"This is a very sensitive issue that both sides should talk about and should come into an agreement," he said, citing the case of Northern Ireland, where disarmament and reintegration also became a sticky issue before their own Good Friday Agreement will political parties in the conflict areas came into being.

"DDR can be tackled slowly and deliberately," he said, adding that the MoU here is instead experience "can be duplicated here."

The negotiating panels of the government and the MILF will resume negotiations this month in Kuala Lumpur. They are expected to discuss the details of the three annexes that the framework provides: Wealth-sharing, power-sharing and normalization.

Iqbal said he saw no problem should the head of the government not be panel, Marvic Leonen, be replaced.

Leonen recently accepted a nomination to the Supreme Court. Whether or not he will be included in the short list that the Judicial and Bar Council will send to Malacañang will be known after Nov. 7.

Iqbal said he had "good rapport" with Leonen but would not stop the former dean of the University of the Philippines College of Law from joining the high-powers.

In fact, he said, "I see Leonen's entry as a positive development."

Earlier, Leonen said the wealth-sharing and power-sharing annexes are already complete as the technical working groups had been meeting on them sometimes.

Much still needs to be done on the normalization, which according to the framework agreement, "The MILF shall undertake a comprehensive program for decommissioning its forces so that they are no longer armed."

Leonen expressed confidence that all three annexes would be completed by the end of the next round of talks in a comprehensive peace pact. With reports from Tj Burgonia

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Angara: Taxpayers should fund elections

By Norman Bordadora

TAXPAYERS should fund the country's political parties instead of rich campaign donors to clean up politicians would not be beholden to vested interest groups, a senator said yesterday.

Sen. Edgardo Angara again called on his colleagues to pass his version of the House bill seeking to strengthen the political party system, saying that full provision on a multimillion-peso state subsidy for national political parties would make elections fairer and more equitable.

Angara's Senate Bill No. 3214 proposes, among other things, the creation of a P200-million state subsidy fund which accredited national political parties could use to their political campaign and other operations like civic education, research and policy development, institutional and training for members.

"The state fund, the fund can be used to perform similar and enhance the operations of political parties. On the other, it empowers them to truly represent the interests of their constituents rather than remain beholden to private contributors," Angara said in a statement.

"The underlying principle there is that a country's politics can be developed and made more responsible if the country supports the kind organizations with their campaigns and finances," he said.

Angara said that by providing funds to political parties so as not to end third party "the state provides baseline support to political parties and ensure their survival to turn economical personalities for funding.

Both the House and Senate versions of the political party reform bill also penalize political turncoats or those who defect from one political party to another by banning them from running in the next election.

The House of Representatives has passed its version of the bill on third and final reading. The Senate's version, on the other hand, has been the subject of a committee report sponsored in the plenary by Angara in August.

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Senate Bill No. 3214 is endorsed by Angara and Senators Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Franklin Drilon and Jinggoy Estrada.

Angara, who prides himself on being the longest-serving senator in the post-Edsa years, said government funding for political parties were common features in many countries with mature democracies like Canada, Germany, Australia, France, the United Kingdom and the United States.

"In 2008, the United States government allotted $136.3 million for its political parties, while the United Kingdom grants £2 million annually," Angara said.

Under the Senate version, the subsidy will be shared proportionately among accredited national parties based on three broad criteria: Political representation, organizational strength and administration capability; and performance and track record of the party.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday - November 4, 2012
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Hear the Lord!

Moses spoke to the people saying, "You, Yahweh, chose to be your God and to walk all the days of your life and be sworn that I made you reply. So that we, your children and your children's children, that they may live long.

"Listen, then, Israel, observe these commandments and put them into practice. If you do this, you will be well and you will multiply in this land flowing with milk and honey, as Yahweh, the God of your fathers, promised you.

"Listen, Israel: Yahweh, our God, is One Yahweh. And you shall love Yahweh, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength. Engrave on your heart the commandments that I give you today."

2nd Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Jesus' priestly sacrifice

The former priests were many since, as mortal men, they could not remain in office. But Jesus remains forever and the priesthood shall not be taken from him. Consequently he is able to save for all time those who approach God through him. He always lives to intercede on their behalf.

It was fitting that our High Priest be holy, undefiled, set apart from sinners and exalted above the heavens; a priest who does not first need to offer sacrifice for himself before offering for the sins of the people, as the high priests do, who offered himself to sanctify us, and for all. And what is the Law elected weak men as high priests, now, after the Law, the word of God with an oath appointed the Son, made perfect forever.

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

The dictum

A teacher of the Law had been listening to this discussion and admired how Jesus answered them. So he came up and asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"

Jesus replied, "The first is: Israel, attend! The Lord, our God, is One Lord; and you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. And after that comes another one. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these two."

The teacher of the Law said to him, "Well spoken, Master; you are right when you say that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all our heart, with all our understanding and with all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves is more important than any burnt offering or sacrifice."

Jesus approved this answer and said, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." But after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

By Ricky Reyes

Read:
- Mark 12:28-34 Jesus recalls the great commandments: love of God, neighbor and self

Reflect:
- What is the relationship between the two great commandments? How do you apply them in your own life?

Pray:
- In your prayer, join your love of God to the love of particular individuals, especially those who are dear to you and those who cause you pain.

Act:
- One of the greatest acts of love is forgiveness. Is there someone you need to forgive?

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Philippine Dermatological Society

PDS 60 1952 - 2012

Skinweek: "**B**alat ... **A**lagaan **L**aban s**A** saki**T**"

The 13th National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week

November 4-10, 2012

Paglilingkod ng Philippine Dermatological Society

In consolidating its mandate to be the recognized and respected leader in dermatology by pursuing excellence in skin health, the PDS, in cooperation with the Department of Health (DOH), officially celebrates National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week (Skinweek) from November 4-10, 2012.

2011-2012 PDS Officers and Board of Directors

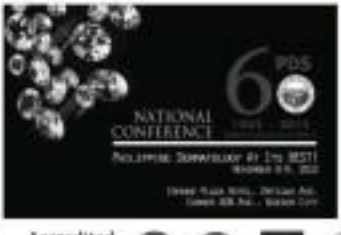
Seated left to right: **Ma. Angela M. Lansang, MD**, Secretary; **Rosalina T. Rodrigo, MD**, Vice-President; **Ma. Victoria G. Sulit-Ed, MD**, President; **Georgina C. Hamoy, MD**, Immediate Past President; **Elena R. Ramos, MD**, Treasurer. Standing left to right: **Lynnet A. Encarnacion, MD, Evelyn B. Quiroga, MD, Ma. Julie C. Maravilla, MD, Francisco B. Magno Jr, MD, Eileen Laura A. Cubillan, MD, Rhanna S. Ramos, MD, and Ma. Janette J. Jamora, MD**, Board Members

This was started in November 1, 2000 under the term of then PDS president, Dr. Elizabeth Amelia V. Tuaco, under Presidential Proclamation No. 335. The nationwide observance of Skinweek is every 2nd week of November.

SKINWEEK is a national advocacy to uplift the health status of Filipinos through patient education and early skin disease detection and prevention by proper dermatologic care.

The activities for this week include: Nationwide Community Outreach free clinics, Education dissemination on Basic Care of the Skin, Hair, and Nails; PDS Research Forum to be held in the morning of November 7, 2012; PDS Scientific Meeting entitled "Beyond the Light – How Well Do You Know Your Lasers?" to be held in the afternoon of November 7, 2012, both at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, QC.; and the PDS 2nd National Conference with the theme, "Philippine Dermatology at its Best", to be held this November 8-9, 2012, also at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, QC.

Dermatology clinics will be located in designated barangay health centers, parishes, and city halls throughout the Philippines with PDS members giving free consultation and free medicines. This project's participants include the four PDS chapters: Northern Luzon, Central Luzon, Southern Luzon, Southern Philippines and the 11 PDS accredited training institutions.



Date	Time	Dermatologists	Venue
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Edwin Fernandez	San Pedro Hospital Compound, Davao City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Marilyn Aquino	St. John Hospital, Calamba City, Laguna (Tel. 049)
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Alice Ramirez	San Roque Church, Cabanatuan City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Jennifer Marie C. Ramos, J. Ramos, J. Rodriguez	Brgy. Carmona Health Center, Batangas, Batangas
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Clarence Ng, Cecilia Li, Jose Li	Brgy. Health Center, Iloilo City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Wilma De Leon-Ng	Jose B. Lingad Memorial Hospital, San Fernando
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Antonio Gabriel	San Rafael City Hall, Bulacan
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Lourdes Ng-Chiongbian-Antonio	Brgy. Health Center, Tarlac
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Lucia Cabrera	Brgy. San Jose Health Center, Tagaytay City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Angel Lim-Dee-Hernandez	Brgy. Bulog, Butuan City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Vilma Santiago	Manila Doctors Hospital, Ermita, Metro Manila
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Annabelle Rodriguez, Adrian Gerard Rodriguez	Rotary Building, Roxas City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Ma. Victoria Hernandez	Rotary Building, Roxas City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Ma. Victoria Hernandez	St. John Mary Vianney Parish, Quezon Province
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Glenda Gonzales	Lodge Alaya Forest Medical Center, Batangas, Laguna
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Jennifer Gonzales-Ocampo, Jennifer Lim-Quiambao, Jane Suson, Geraldine Marie Lim-Quiambao	Ayala Heights, Koronadal
Nov 4	1 - 5pm	Drs. Jose Ma. Ramos, Jr., Ma. Victoria Ramos, Jr., Jeremias Ramos, Jr., Ma. Victoria Ramos, Jr., Gabriel A. Ramos, Jr., Ramos	Brgy. Luz, Cebu
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Anna Grey V. Bolante-Ty, Agnes M. Tanseco, Jr., Hermes C. Santiago, III, Ma. Cristina L. Ocampo, J. Ocampo, Ramon M. Ocampo	Provincial Capitol, Barangay 3, Capitol Site, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Nov 4	1 - 5pm	Dr. Lyn Ramos	Barangay Health Center, Tanauan, Batangas
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Dr. Lyn Ramos	Barangay Health Center, Tanauan, Batangas
Nov 4	9 - 12nn, 1pm	Dr. Ma. Victoria Ramos, Jr., Dr. Jeremias Ramos, Jr.	Rotary Building, Roxas City
Nov 4	9 - 12nn	Drs. Laura Tiamzon, Michelle Ong	Manila Doctors Hospital, Ermita, Metro Manila
Nov 4	9 AM - 5 PM	Drs. Alexis Wilkinson, R. Acosta, M. Galang, J. Gonzalez, Ma. Victoria Hernandez, M. Montenegro, M. Ng, N. Ong, C. Ocampo, J. Ortiz, C. Tan, J. Tan, Ramon M. Ocampo, Ramon Ocampo, J. Ocampo, J. Ortiz, Ramos	
Nov 5	10 - 12nn	Drs. Antonio Gabriel, Michelle Ong, Ong	Ground Floor Annex, Makati Medical Center, Makati City
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Rosanna Yuson-Tuazon, Tuazon	Ground Floor Annex, Makati Medical Center, Makati City
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Ma. Victoria Hernandez	Rotary Building, Roxas City
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Agnes Tanseco, Hermes C. Santiago, III	Provincial Capitol, Barangay 3, Capitol Site, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Cecilia Angeles, Eva Lumicao, CHARMAINE Garcia-Jurador	Medical Plaza of Pio Lim, Poblacion, Tanauan, Batangas
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Lourdes Ng-Chiongbian-Antonio	Brgy. San Jose Health Center, Tagaytay City
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Elizabeth Ong-Ty, Lucy Lorenzo-Rodriguez	Ground Floor Annex, Makati Medical Center, Makati City
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Evangeline Ocampo-Villanueva	Rizal Center
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Francisco Bautista-Magno	Multipurpose Hall, Pili
Nov 5	9 - 12nn	Dr. Lourdes Ng-Chiongbian-Antonio	San Roque Church, Cabanatuan City
Nov 5	9 AM - 5 PM	Drs. Alexis Wilkinson, R. Acosta, M. Galang, J. Gonzalez, Ma. Victoria Hernandez, M. Montenegro, M. Ng, N. Ong, C. Ocampo, J. Ortiz, C. Tan, J. Tan, Ramon M. Ocampo, Ramon Ocampo, J. Ocampo, J. Ortiz, Ramos	Brgy. San Jose Health Center, Tagaytay City
Nov 6	9 - 12nn	Drs. Jose Ma. Ramos, Jr., Ma. Victoria Ramos, Jr., Jeremias Ramos, Jr., Ma. Victoria Ramos, Jr., Gabriel A. Ramos, Jr., Ramos	Brgy. Luz, Cebu
Nov 6	9 - 12nn	Dr. Ma. Victoria Hernandez	Rotary Building, Roxas City
Nov 6	9 - 12nn	Dr. Lourdes Ng-Chiongbian-Antonio	Brgy. San Jose Health Center, Tagaytay City
Nov 6	9 - 12nn	Dr. Ma. Victoria Hernandez	Rotary Building, Roxas

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Lessons from 'Sandy'

EDITORIAL

HOWLING like a monster, it came hurtling across the ocean in a way Americans had never seen before. Indeed, the "superstorm" named "Sandy" was a freak of nature, a weather condition formed from the gathering of different, individual sources. It came packing hurricane-force winds and was so massive in reverse that US East Coast like a menacing shroud. It had already ripped its way across the Caribbean, killing more than 60 people, and now it swooped in to wreak more havoc elsewhere.

But the Americans responded admirably. Boasting the most accurate data from the US National Weather Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, US authorities issued mandatory evacuation orders and declared states of emergency in the states most affected by the superstorm. In what seemed like an apocalyptic movie, the genie city of New York shuddered to a halt. Buses and subways trains stopped running, air traffic ceased. New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg ordered almost 400,000 people evacuated—a move that was echoed in other cities as Sandy barreled ashore. "This is a serious and dangerous storm," Bloomberg announced.

The superstorm was so dangerous that the three-pitch presidential campaign was halted days short of election day. Both President Barack Obama and Republican contender Mitt Romney suspended their campaign activities, and Obama returned to Washington to direct operations. Obama later flew to the New Jersey coast, assuring the role of Responder in Chief. But first he finally told those of his constituents who were in harm's way: "If you don't evacuate when you are asked to evacuate, you are putting first responders in danger," he warned, adding that such defiance could have "potentially fatal consequences."

Not only did the authorities display strong political will in preemptively shutting down their cities and evacuating those in high-risk areas, but the public also showed resolve and faith when they left their homes and headed to their appointed shelters. By this cooperation between the people of the United States and their government, a bigger number of casualties was prevented and, despite the loss of lives and damage to property, a startling example of disaster preparedness was made from which other countries should find lessons.

And there are many important lessons to be learned by the Philippines. Arguably no one lashed by disasters than it experiences the fury of over 20 typhoons annually, including happened once in a lifetime tropical storms as "Ondoy" and "Sendong." One would think the Philippines would be an expert by now in dealing with the yearly onslaughts, and would have specific funds allocated for disaster response, but like ever increasing number of deaths in storms and typhoons consistently bring to attention.

"Don't politicize it," Toni Gonzaga of the Manila Observatory said in connection with the US authorities' mandatory evacuation of transportation shutdown orders. "We should have the political will to do what Mayor Bloomberg did. In our case, political will can still be strengthened to undertake appropriate measures and evacuate everyone." To be sure, the US government was equipped with the most accurate and up-to-date information to back its orders. This is an enviable situation absent in those parts for lack of sophisticated weather instruments. And then, of course, the usual nightmares brought about by clogged waterways and huge numbers of the population living in pitiless areas—citing an example, Lacuna said the coastal city of Manila needed "to come up with a viable land use policy and [one] management policy"—are a constant strain on rescue resources and personnel.

And what of Philippine evacuation centers, which, store as far back as anyone can remember, are inevitably public schools, gyms, basketball courts and the like? CNN cameras panned across an evacuation center in New York, showing a shelter with rows of folding cots and blankets, and, quite important, an area set aside for the evacuees' beloved pets.

With the Philippines identified as the third country most vulnerable to climate change in the entire world, our authorities would be wise to heed the lessons brought by Sandy in the course of preparing for the storms and typhoons that are sure to come again. We need political will to match the vaunted Filipino resilience. We need a drastic change in our way of thinking. Philippine Red Cross chair Richard Gordon has an appropriate reminder: "While the Americans already get distressed by rising flood waters, Filipinos usually dismiss it, saying we're used to that. But that doesn't make it right."

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Political transitions

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

BY AN interesting coincidence, the two most powerful nations in the world—the United States and China—will choose in the same week the leaders who will govern their respective peoples, and, by extension, shape the conditions for peace and development in the rest of the world. Filipinos cannot but take a keen interest in these transitions, not just because many of us identify with American fate and inquire the deepest concerns for China. It is also because these two countries show to two contrasting systems of governing a society that invite us to reflect on our own.

The two nations are perhaps as different from each other in the way they recruit and select their leaders as are theories and China. One aims for openness and representativeness, the other aims for stability and continuity. One chooses its president every four years after a series of open debates culminating in popular elections. The other chooses its leader every 10 years after a series of conclave-type talks by the top members of the Communist Party.

One aspires to engage every citizen of voting age in the electoral exercise; the other restricts the process of arriving at a consensus to the members of a single party whose elders have called the shots in the last 63 years. This does not mean that power struggles do not exist in the latter. They do. The difference is that in America, the opposition is institutionalized, and dissent is valorized as something good and is thus protected under the laws. In China, the open expression of disagreement is seen as a threat to social harmony, and is thus frowned upon if not brutally suppressed.

We could go on with such comparisons and end up confirming the superiority of the American system. But that would be simplistic. It would disregard the specific historical and cultural circumstances from which these two political systems sprung, and the particular problems to which they seek to respond. In another column, we will try to make sense of the outcome of the 18th congress of the Chinese Communist Party which, in fact, rules China. Here, we will focus our attention on some curious aspects of the US electoral system.

A legacy of land-state autonomy and of mutual redistribution has been a challenge and, at the same time, a source of strength for the United States. America's 50 member states are proud of their individual heritages and are jealous of the freedoms they enjoy as self-governing entities. And yet America would not be the great power it is today if the states were not unified under a federal government. The nationalism by which the United States itself have evolved and continue to be negotiated in accordance with the expectations of state autonomy and the imperatives of American global hegemony. There is no other system like that of the United States.

To illustrate: in the US presidential election of 2000, more Americans voted for Al Gore than his opponent George W. Bush. Yet it is the Bush who was proclaimed the winner because, under the unique Electoral College system, it is the electoral votes of every state (not quarter and not the nationwide popular vote) Except in two states, electoral votes are pledged to the winner of the statewide popular vote on a winner-take-all basis.

To win a presidential election, a candidate must get at least 270 electoral votes, or one plus half of the total 538 electors. This total is equivalent to the number of congressional and senate seats of 50 states plus those allocated to the non-state Washington DC, to that controversial election, Bush barely made the cut with 271 electoral votes, while Gore obtained only 266.

As rooted in the American past as the Electoral College is the reality of "red" and "blue" states—states whose electoral outcomes are predictable. This time the subject of Maher Mangahas' column the other day (Inquirer, 11/03/12). In the last three presidential elections, Maher notes, 22 states consistently voted Republican, while 19, including Washington DC, voted Democratic. This means that the vote in the 10 remaining states—Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, and Virginia—will effectively determine the overall outcome of the election. In 2008, Barack Obama won in all the 10 "battleground states," giving him an easy win. But this may not be the case this year. How do we make sense of this great divide in American politics?

For this we turn to the New York Times sunday commentary (NYT, 10/04/12) of Harvard psychology professor Steven Pinker, titled "Why are states so red and blue?" But, of course, is the Republican color, and the electoral map shows this to be the predominant hue in the southern and western doesn't mean win states. In these places, there is strong solidarity for a public religion, pro ownership, less government, and strong families...all due concepts for political conservatism. How is it that the Republican Party came to be in the color of the northeastern and coastal states that lean toward liberalism and government with strong regulatory powers, a secularist culture, strict gun control, individual freedoms, social equality, and more individual responsibility?

The Yankee and south," Pinker writes, "are extensions of Europe and continued the government-driven stratifying process that had been gathering momentum since the Middle Ages. The South and West 'pioneered the culture of house that emerged in the meantime as the heroes of the growing country, vanquished by their own civilizing forces of churches, families, and temperance." Rooted in history, the American political divide is ultimately cultural, and not merely geographic.

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Just keep on loving

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about two old men having a talk at a bar. The first one said: "Hey, did you know that Christmas this will fall on a Friday this year?" The second man said: "Really! I hope it will not be Friday the 13th!"

Christmas day can change, but Christmas date is fixed on Dec. 25. In today's Gospel (Mk. 12, 28-34), Jesus lays bare at the most fundamental commandment, but he further teaches us that love can be expressed in love of God, love of neighbor, and love of yourself. Jesus teaches us that the commandment to love must start with love of God first, love of neighbor second, and love of self last.

* * *

It would be good for us today to check if we are keeping these three commandments according to Jesus' guidelines. It is fair as we do so, we are "not far from the Kingdom of God." It is so far as we fail to do so, we are just focused on the ways of this worldly kingdom.

* * *

Remember when we were students and how we prepared for our exams, and then how we anxiously awaited news on whether we passed or failed? We must look at life in that same way. We have the privileges, learning, or knowing what questions will be asked of us when we face our Creator in our "final exams." May we not waylay a failing or incomplete grade when the final reckoning comes.

* * *

We talk a lot about our love of God, or more so about our love of neighbor, but the truth of the matter is that many if not most, of us really love ourselves! Love of self, the heart and the law of the commandments of Jesus, is in reality our top priority—naturally. Only by God's grace can we rightly and truly transcend our selfishness and pride.

* * *

Our celebrations of All Saints Day reminds us that we all are called to become saints—i.e., to live according to God's will and in become obedient to God's plan. Our life must be a constant effort to go beyond our weaknesses and failures to our greatest holiness and selflessness. The thing is not to give up on ourselves. Kind does not give up on us!) and to just keep on going and just keep on loving.

* * *

Our recent commemoration of All Souls Day reminds us, too, that life has an end. We will all die, sooner or later. Jesus tells us today that love, only love, can only give us a meaningful life, not only that, love itself is our "ticket" to eternal life!

* * *

Pope Benedict XVI opened last Oct. 11 the "Year of Faith." He urged us to renew our faith more. Many of our people really need not only updating but also knowledge of the "faith of our fathers." However, beyond understanding and professing our faith, we are all called to express and concretize our faith that bears fruit in love.

* * *

Some months ago, an old nun beside our Mission Office began to wither, and eventually died. It was not a large tree compared to the other trees in the area, but I remember how generous and diligent it was in bearing fruits. It was also a very welcoming tree, providing a home for the birds and shade for our workers. It must have died, but we had to move down so that it would not occupy space. Now a new tree has been planted where it once stood. It has served its purpose in life. Even in death, it left behind priceless wood.

* * *

Are you just "occupying space"? Are you just getting by? Are you just existing? Jesus tells us all today that life is a journey we have a mission, and we have a final destination.

It is always a humbling experience to go to the cemetery and read the names of people and remember them. In their silence they speak to us loudly about life and what is desirable.

The interviewer named "Gandy" that recently left and wandered south destruction in the East Coast of the United States reminds us of the fragility and uncertainty of life. How little we are, and how fleeting are all our so-called human achievements. That is not to say that we are irresponsible. All we are pointing out is the futility and emptiness of too much thought of self-importance, complaint, and pride.

* * *

With Christmas just around the corner, let us start planning how to make this season meaningful and beautiful not only for ourselves but also for the people around us. It's downloading time! Let's download our sins, bad habits, and unhappy relationships. It's also time to clean up and get rid of excess baggage and share those with the less fortunate. Give a hand! Yes, let us make our love real and concrete.

* * *

"People who love each other fully and truly are the happiest people in the world. They may have little, they may have nothing, but they have happy people. Everything depends on how we love one another." (Mother Teresa)

* * *

Commuting is not advisable for final exams. Don't we for the "last two minutes"? Refresh time now: Love more!

* * *

A moment with the Lord:
Lord, help me to love, and to just keep on loving. Amen.

Party-list: Legislation is the solution (2)

WITH DUE RESPECT

Antonio U. Pangalangan

HOW ARE party-list winners determined? The Supreme Court answered this question in its very first decision on the party-list system, "Ang Bagong Bayani-OFW Labor Party vs. Comelec" (Oct. 8, 2008). Since then, several other decisions affirming and modifying this landmark case have come out, but the controversy we have discussed before the elections remains.

Mathematically inarticulable. This is because the Party-list Law (Republic Act 7941) is cognac: contradictory and mathematically inexplicable, yet—despite repeated prodding by the high court—tolerant but not intolerable (Comelec).

The party-list system is a hybrid of two political movements: governments, the Constitution mongrelized it into our presidential system by saying that 20 percent of the total membership of the House of Representatives shall be "those elected through the party-list system, shall be elected through a party-list system of registered national, regional, and sectoral parties or organizations."

The Constitution does not define the nature of the Filipino party-list system. By inserting the phrase "as provided by law," the framers left the matter, as the constitutional framers passed the job to the legislators. In turn, Congress obliged by enacting RA 7941 that, however, convoluted the problem of determining the winners.

In the Ang Bagong case, only the 12 candidates getting the highest votal (votes per list) are declared elected. (In contrast, the determination of the party-list winners is quite complicated because, for one thing, the voters are parties and organizations, not individuals.

For example, suppose in the Senate where the requirement is that the party-list law can obtain at least 2 percent of the total valid votes cast for the party-list system. Moreover, those that qualify (or pass the 2-percent threshold) are entitled to additional seats for not exceeding two.

Otherwise stated, each winning party is entitled to a maximum of three seats: that is, one "qualifying" plus two additional seats. The additional seats shall be computed in proportion to their (winning parties') total number of votes.

Complicated formulas. In the "three-seat limit," the justices had to find a way to convert into a mathematical formula the allowance Congress laid down by the Constitution and the Party-list Law—i.e., (1) "20 percent allowance," (2) "2 percent threshold," (3) "three-seat limit," and (4) "proportional representation."

Their main headache: Congress—the Court came up with what is now known as the "Veterans formula" of determining the winners. It is also referred to as the "Pangandaman formula" because I was the ponente of the decision.

I do not have the space to explain this complicated formula. Suffice it to say that it was calculated, mainly because it allegedly violated proportional representation and because each "seat might look like when graphed." However, the formula mostly adhered the foregoing parameters.

Mathematically speaking, proportional representation as mandated by the Party-list Law can not be enforced if all the parameters, especially the "2-percent threshold" and the "three-seat limit" are observed. To attain precise proportional representation, the Party-list Law must be amended and simplified.

In any event, the Veterans formula was affirmed unanimously in subsequent decisions ("Barangka ng Mangingisda vs Comelec" (March 31, 2010) and "Ubay vs. Comelec" (April 13, 2010)).

However, on April 21, 2009—five years after promulgating Cibac—the Court in "Banat vs. Comelec" modified Veterans by declaring unconstitutional the 2-percent threshold and authorized the award of congressional seats to party-list groups that obtained less than 2 percent of the total votes cast.

Nonetheless, the Banat decision did not solve the dysfunction of the Party-list Law because now, regardless of how few to votes are, a party-list group could now qualify for the 20-percent constitutional allowance. In our brochure to contrast, the politicos refer to as arithmetic—a maximum of three seats. Worse, Banat opened the floodgates to party-list representatives even if they obtained less than 1 percent of the total votes cast. While Banat abandoned the 2-percent threshold, it failed to provide a substitute formula.

Relative and irrelevant. The Supreme Court does not make, amend or revise laws. It merely declares them valid or invalid. At most, it crafts guidelines to help Congress in filling in the gaps in legislative policy. Only Congress can correct gaps in the laws or make them more rational and mathematical.

In the present instance, Congress should define more clearly the concept and nature of the Philippine party-list system; it should declare in more definitive terms whether the law is intended only for the marginalized and underrepresented, and whether it is open to all parties. It should reengineer the method by which the winners would be determined more easily.

Or, it should repeal the 7941 altogether if it believes the party-list experiment has failed. By repealing this law, the party-list system would be effectively abolished for want of an enabling law. But leaving it as it will just continue to confound and confuse everyone, including its own framers. *(Mr. Pangalangan's And the people)*

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Dual perspective

YOUNG BLOOD

Pancho Dizon

WHEN I told my Americano classmates that I was returning to my homeland, the Philippines, I received mixed reactions. The town I lived in was somewhat rural, the nearest mall being half an hour away (and that's without any traffic at all). The only entertainment was the Friday-night high school football game at the fall. And foreigners, especially Asians like me, were a rare sight. Thus, it was only natural that my classmates would ask:

Why leave for a country so many people outside the world, much less the Philippines, in fact, one of the first questions asked of me when I made my announcement was, "So are you still going to go to school there?" The question was a good one, since I had been to Europe at least once every year, and whom most would consider well-traveled.

Most Filipinos of the diaspora tend to congregate in big cities like New York, Chicago, or Los Angeles. But my father's line of work called for him to work in small towns, and as a result, I spent the majority of my childhood in rural areas of America, away from the hustle and bustle and melting pot diversity that most Filipinos seem to equate with America. Throughout my time I met common, everyday, average Americans, and by that I mean the sons and daughters of plumbers, teachers, truckers, cops, etc. This is a view for my Tita Bet, Tito Angel, Tito Ed, Tito Ed, Tito Ed, Tito Ed, Tito Ed, and the rare OA, the pro-serving CEOs, celebrities, etc. than Filipinos get to see on TV and in the movies.

So what did I learn?

First, let me explain that I left the Philippines when I was nine years old. Most of what I knew then about America was from watching TV and movies. From the moment my plane landed, we would live in a 3-story house in the suburbs with a mostly trimmed lawn and neighbors who would wave and smile every time we walked by. I expected that the kids at school would mimic their love me, because they would consider me exotic and cool. I also expected that everyone in America would be white, with a white college education.

Reality was a departure from expectation. A few weeks after we landed, we moved into a small, 2-bedroom townhouse that was about half the size of the house we left behind in Pandacan. The neighborhood was divided between young families and university students, and there was the occasional old person who lived by themselves. Walking through the neighborhood was a lonely experience; there was no life on the streets at all. Our neighbors were friendly enough—with a "hi" or "hello" every now and then—but for the most part, one never heard from them. Inevitably, loneliness struck.

So I tried to make friends with the neighborhood kids, although there seemed to be none at first. Finally I met a small boy named Damien a few years younger than me, who liked to play in the dirt. He spoke English with a Southern accent, and at first I had difficulty understanding him. Also, we didn't seem to have the same interests, and we grew apart after a few weeks. Later, I met Jason, a boy around my age who also shared his mother, disowning my image of a wholesome America.

But, Jason) two years later. We had moved in the town I mentioned at the beginning of this piece. The town was pretty much divided between white and African-American, and it wasn't until then that I experienced feelings of racism. The town was also somewhat poor. The locals were less informed and educated, and there were stories like Damien's. I went to school with boys who were innocent drug dealers and girls who became pregnant, and I heard some of their stories through the grapevine. We could say that I was hustled into the system of the "real" America that I had dreamed of.

As I grew older, my naïve image of America was shattered bit by bit. It was in America where I began to see hopelessness and poverty. I don't mean to criticize my countrymen, but most of the time here, where the urban middle class are nascent, sleeping on the street, or a child begging for food or money, they will usually receive a crowd of onlookers and not much more on with their lives. Sure, there are those programs like "Real Time," but how many of us actually take time to find out the stories of poor people? I mean I, for, when I was growing up here, I never really took the time to do that either.

Seeing five years in America, I learned and grew a lot. Mind you, I'm not trying to imply that everyone born in America is a product of a broken home. There are stories like that everywhere in the world. But during my five years there, I started to wonder. I remember how so many Filipinos kids had dreams of going abroad when they grew up, and I asked myself, Why? Did we not appreciate our own national heritage? Did we not see the potential in our own country?

But despite everything I've said, I was adamant when I found out we were returning to the Philippines. Moving is always hard, especially when you're made to enter good friends. The reason for our moving back was also not pleasant. The recession had hit my father's work. After very sad goodbyes to my friends and a few relatives, I reluctantly moved back to Manila.

Many people felt sorry for me when I left. Most of them thought my family would fall into abject poverty as soon as we landed, as that was all they knew of the Philippines. Some of them even thought that we didn't have Internet in our country! I was encouraged us to keep trying to stay in America by any means necessary.

Maybe it's just me, but Manila and the rest of the Philippines have only grown a bit since I left. There was a lot of rediscovery, but I was discovering new things, too, because I now had a new perspective. Many people I knew no expect Intelligence, Handling. Many almost I was greeted by miles and miles of malls. Many people also told me that Manila was too crowded, but what I saw amid the hustle and bustle was life. It was a refreshing departure from the calmness and monotony of the quaint small town I lived in.

Another misconception I had was about unemployment. What I first felt...I saw that a lot of people still had a desire to be colonial mentality. Before, Filipinos were not proud to be Filipino and willingly put themselves down in favor of foreigners. I also knew many people who belittled our country and demeaned it as hopeless, flocking and stacking up to developed countries. I'm not sure if it's the same now, but I've heard some other thing that happened when I was gone, but all that seemed to have more or less disappeared when I returned.

It's not like we don't have good reasons to be proud. Amid the economic crisis in Europe and America, our country's economy has weathered the storm and has been growing steadily. Filipinos are now regarded as some of the most hard-working and brilliant work ethic, our great English skills, and our versatility, and are starting to invest in our country. As a young Filipino, I can't help but feel hope for the future.

Pancho Dizon, 19, is home schooled. He writes in a story. "Dr. guess my country interests, I've always considered myself as having writing as a part of my work, and I don't think I want anything else. When I grow up, I want to be a travel writer or a journalist."

Jimmy Savile and our own 'lovable louts'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

FILIPINOS aren't really all that familiar with Jimmy Savile, the late BBC host who's currently been the target of investigations into charges of pedophilia.

From all accounts of his persona and career, I suppose you could say Savile was a local combination of "Uncle Bob Stewart" of "Uncle Bob's Lucky 7 Club," "Kuya Rudgie" of the children's show "Batibot," Tito Sic and Joey of "Eat Bulaga," and Willie Revillame.

All these may explain the shock waves spreading across Britain today as revelations of the TV host's sexual predation come out. It's like seeing Santa Claus was actually exploiting the elves in his Christmas Toy Shop, or that Michael Jackson's own children were not the result of sperm and egg donation after all but the subject of a long drawn-out trial!

The scandalous revelations are also bringing down two British institutions. One of them is the British Broadcasting Company, the publicly funded but editorially independent broadcaster whose cutting-point that tolerated and promoted Savile despite allegations of his sex-fiends exemplary behavior. It's said Savile sexually harassed his young victims in his BBC dressing room and at least one victim was allegedly raped there, and his own confessions in his 1974 autobiography. There are even reports that a BBC investigation show was preparing to air a report on the steamy side of Savile when it was abruptly pulled.

British police officials are also being raked over the coals for their failure to check out reports in recent past the "beloved" TV host despite many complaints. There's speculation that Savile, who pegged his celebrity to raise funds for children's charities many of his excess may in fact benefit some of the kids he claimed to help. The knowledge with politicians and police officials, running what one writer called "the shield of celebrity."

* * *

PUTTING in The New York Times, British author Jeanette Winterson writes that the myth of broadcasting that seems to have surrounded and protected Savile through most of his public career.

"I don't remember anyone in the '70s—or ever—really being fond of Mr. Savile," Mirth wrote. "He trying to be forever young he came across as forever old, a gaunt, haunted imp with a pageboy cut, bold track suits and a tantalizing cigar. At times it seemed the national creeping out was palpable, and I'd like to say that we, the viewing public, had our suspicions. But the world is such a different place, though almost 20 years of Jim'll Fix It and All of Him exhuming the prime-time BBC show "Top of the Pops."

Indeed, Savile seemed to get out of his way to disarm any charges of "pedophilia" at that time. Mirth describes as "a free-spirited sexual scamp, somewhere between Dan Auer and naughty shepherd Lid." Savile made no attempt to disguise his smoldering eye or hands, even advertising a snazzy BBC jacket that he sported his dates in his mobile home doing "everybody I can lay my hands on." It was, says Mirth, what screenwriter Graham Linehan called "a conducive not conspired at the time."

What Savile's bosses at the BBC and his greenroom staff made of his behavior is the fuse of their suspicions, it seems, was to laugh off his outrageous statements and his louche behavior, perhaps preferring to view it as outrageous comedy or satire. It may not be too farfetched to suggest that Savile's celebrity status was accommodated with the contradictions between his public image and private sins, his outrageousness a call for help, if not expiation.

* * *

OF COURSE, we have had our share of "lovable louts," public figures who get away with literally murder, but still survived. If we succeeded openly, in with the Savile case, it's not as if no one had suspicions. In fact, many tales of their outrageous crimes and behaviors spread like wildfire, even if the most common reaction seemed to run along the lines of "so what did you expect from such a character?"

Not until would the story and Pepsi Paloma, who accused the comedy trio of Tito, Vic and Joey of going rape but faced a wall of hostility from complacent media, indifferent broadcasting executives and mainstream fans. Part of the problem was, of course, Paloma herself, a "sexy-think bomb" of a personality who was not above using her sexuality to get ahead by shopping them around to various possible boyfriends and/or sponsors.

Some of the charges stuck, and Paloma eventually dropped the charges after she was allegedly bribed by Tito, Vic and Joey (and by Eat Bulaga) and talked with lies, but only after playing a proud on the table in front of her. Paloma eventually complained outside, and the truth of her charges will forever remain a mystery. She, even as she now runs for public office, remains a place as supposed "oldest" in the field of comedy.

* * *

THERE there is Bertlinne, who managed, with a lot of help from the management of his former network, to wriggle out of child abuse charges when he made a boy perform a "sexy dance" on his TV show.

He even had the temerity in our well-known child psychologist Honey Carandang, who was one of the first to record the stories over the "Dear Jane" incident, even if those charges were eventually dismissed for lack of merit.

One of the more discomfiting episodes of this turbulent and its public fallout was the appearance of his son's parents on the show, and the sight of the boy performing a "sexy dance" was not so much his performance as the drone and the smirking laughter of the audience as the resulting "notoriety" from it.

Indeed, celebrity seems to bring with it a shield, kept out of which the rest of us, ordinary folk would immediately fall on the head of the ordinary transgressor. Let's hope we won't have to wait for the passing of our homegrown "lovable louts" before they get their comeuppance.

Kill and let die

WORLD VIEW

Antoni Wolf

NEW YORK—In a strange but fitting coincidence, US President Barack Obama and his Republican challenger Mitt Romney had their final debate—which focused on foreign policy—just as the now-famous flood film, "Skyfall," had its world premiere in London. Although 007, who turned 50 this year, is a British born global brand, his influences on the American political psyche—and that psyche's influence on Brand—is obvious.

Indeed, the latest production in a British-American partnership, and the evident special-operations sense here that flood has come to embody reflects US assumptions about foreign policy and its role in the world. Romney and Obama both reinforced the dominant real-time glue line: Assassinating people (including US citizens) solely on the President's orders, once considered a war crime, has become an acceptance line.

That is a real threat for Obama, it has been for Obama. Romney asserted that his foreign policy was "pretty straightforward." It was, he said, "to go after the bad guys, to make sure we do our very best to intercept them, to kill them, to take them out of the picture." It was a policy of the "kill first" "shoot" "shoot they were found, not only on the battlefield, but also in other sovereign countries, such as Pakistan, without charge or trial.

Obama, for his part, scored points by shaming Romney for having opposed the illegal raid that killed Osama bin Laden. But he disagreed over the drone strike strategy that he has used to "kill bad guys" without charge or trial. Romney shouted, before candidate maintained that, by some estimates, the drone strikes have killed far more civilians than bin Laden's compound. Between 2004 and mid-September 2012 as 474-881, including 176 children.

Prior to the debate, CNN chief White House correspondent Candy Crowley had announced that her debate strategy He regularly avoided answers...she stands "may be authorized by our laws"—made no mention of trials for those accused of terror crimes, of international war crimes treaties, or any other law to legality. Indeed, US law names "authority" those strikes. If these are carried out in countries with which the United States is not at war.

Her own Administration was wrong. Obama asserted that American citizens "are subject to the protections of the constitution and due process." But Awlaki al-Awlaki was a US citizen when Obama directed to have killed on just this way, he was al-Awlaki's 16-year-old son, who was deliberately killed by a drone strike two weeks later.

I happened to watch the debate while surrounded by other Americans, teenagers. They had grown up in a post-9/11 environment seemingly with the claim that US presidents could kill anyone anywhere a "bad guy" and order his or her summary assassination. "That's illegal," I kept saying when the candidates spoke of "killing bad guys" rather than arresting or extraditing them to face criminal charges.

But my fellow-watchers—well-educated teenagers believed me. Having grown up with presidents and presidential candidates seeing around the flood crime virtually without challenge, they thought I was making things up. "Of course it's legal," they said. Both candidates had just said they were the world that they planned to continue to engage in what are, according to both US and international law, wars, and acts. The debate's moderator, Bob Schieffer, who should have known better, said nothing.

In the hours and days that followed, I recalled Lafitte's major shortcoming about the Bin Laden raid, in which a US Navy SEAL team overpowered a compound in a residential Pakistani neighborhood and assassinated a lot of people. The book "We Stay Day" written by a team involved, in a formulaic fashion, into a heroic narrative. Lafitte's heroic fair published a hagiographic behind-the-scenes look at the steps that Obama and his team took in the run-up to the raid.

What is striking about "His Easy Day" and the Obama-Romney debate is the remarkable few legal distinctions reflected in every other paragraph. The lessons cited by Stanley Bin confirm that the intelligence on which the team made the decision to "go in" was unprocessable and incomplete. What is, the target, Jalaluddin Haqqani? "Unknown," Bin replies. Another? Mir Bin Laden. "Just his identity was not 100 percent certain). It was also clear from the piece that arresting the man would have been no more difficult—and perhaps easier...than killing him and jeopardizing his family.

Like the Navy SEALs and other special-ops teams now roaming the planet in secrecy freed a an extraordinary killer, whether for personal revenge (as in "Quantum of Solace"), geopolitical reasons (as in "On Another Day"), or simply because someone in the chain of command (like Bin) targets them as an order does their annihilation, without revealing any awareness of ambiguity concerning who is a "bad guy" or acknowledging the possibility of poor intelligence or mistaken identity. His innocent victims, meanwhile, are invisible. Human suffering becomes unbearable as part of the spectacle and becomes its own justification—a character in the hero's story line.

For 30 years, James Bond and his "licence to kill" have stood for imperial justice beyond the limits of law. But he is now eclipsed by a new figure, America's vocation of domestic and international law...and the bodies of innocents mown down by drones or operatives—are all no real.

Project Syndicate

Antoni Wolf is a political activist and social critic whose most recent book is 'Give Me Liberty: A Handbook for American Revolutionaries.'

TALK of the TOWN

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Jaime Juan V. Santamaria Jr.

Dynasties threat to democracy

By Jose V. Abueva

WHAT is a political dynasty? A common meaning is the repeated election and reelection of close relatives with the same surname to offices in the local and national governments. The relatives appear to enjoy a monopoly of political power to the disadvantage of non-kinfolk. In this sense we can cite many provinces and cities with political dynasties.

Political dynasty members are seen to use their superior wealth, following and access to public resources to favor themselves. They misuse their political power and keep them loyal with patronage.

Some of them even resort to and/or do not illegal means to keep their political reign out of office: corruption, fraud, violence, vote-buying and intimidation. But other political dynasties do not. In we have "bad political dynasties" and "innocuous political dynasties."

Over a century

Per example, in our province, La Union, the Ortega clan has endured for over a century, or since the beginning of elections under American colonial rule. In there is some reference to an Ortega "political dynasty."

However, apparently, most people in La Union do not resent the exceptional political supremacy of the Ortega clan to the negative factors we have mentioned. In this sense we can speak of a benevolent and respected Ortega "political dynasty."

In general, however, political dynasties rise and fall. A political dynasty can be challenged and defeated when our agency or body away when the people are dissatisfied and turn to other leaders.

For a long time, the Osmeñas and the Cesanos dominated politics in Cebu. Now, the Garcias, Durano and other families are dominant. In other places politics is keenly competitive and unpredictable, and there is a turnover of ruling families.

Dynasties in Senate

The issue of political dynasties has heated up in relation to the 2013 candidates to the Senate who come from one and the same family or close kin and how the same surname or no effect results, or President aquino himself.

In the senate, local public executives and some cynicism greeted the announcement of re-elected candidates for the 2013 elections. One set belongs to the majority coalition, Real Aquino, the President's cousin, Sen. Alan Peter, brother of Sen. Pia Cayetano, according himself. Rep. Juan Edgardo Angara Jr. succeeding his father, Sen. Edgardo Angara, who is reaching his term limit and running to succeed his sister to prevent the Aquino governor, former Sen. Pilar Rep. Cynthia Villar, wife of outgoing Sen. Manuel Villar, former senator Ramon "Bo" Magsaysay, only son of the late and beloved President Ramon Magsaysay Jr. (1953-57), and Sen. Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III, son of former Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

Under the banner of the United Nationalist Alliance, led by Vice President Jejomar Binay, the senatorial candidates include his eldest daughter, Mercy Rep. Juan Ponce Enrile Jr. who would be joining his father, the Senate President; Rep. JV Ejercito who would join his brother, Sen. Joseph Estrada.

Prohibited but not defined

Certainly, the framers of our 1987 Constitution recognized the importance of counteracting the dynasty-building habit in politics, as expressed in the following provision: "The State shall guarantee equal access to opportunities for public service and prohibit political dynasties as may be defined by law." (ART. II, Sec. 26)

Unfortunately, the framers left it entirely to Congress, some of whose members belong to political dynasties, to define political dynasties and prohibit them. The Commission on Elections (Comelec) can say that it has no clear basis to enforce the constitutional prohibition since the Constitution does not define political dynasties and Congress has not passed the implementing legislation on the subject.

If the framers had been more serious and discerning, they could have prohibited political dynasties effectively by a forthright constitutional prohibition such as this: "No outgoing elected official shall be succeeded in the same office by any person related to him/her to the third degree of consanguinity or affinity."

This would prohibit the spouse, brother or sister, or in-laws, children, or first cousins of the outgoing elected official to succeed him/her in the same office.

Lack of implementing legislation would not prevent the enforcement of the specific constitutional prohibition. Indeed, the prohibition would make it mandatory for Congress to pass the implementing law. Or the courts would make the decision in a litigation and direct its implementation. The Comelec would be obligated to enforce the court's decision.

Test case in SC

Businessman Jose Bayoge has asked the Supreme Court to enforce the constitutional ban on political dynasties in the 2013 elections. He alleges that the current batch of candidates is "the best testimonies to that political and constitutional decline." He cites not only the political dynasties in the Senate but also the Belmontes, Pimentels and Jalosjoses.

Bayoge asserts that the Comelec is vested with implied powers to make a definition of political dynasties and the "enunciation of it" in political terms. He argues that political dynasties are prohibited by the Constitution because they are inherently bad; it does not matter whether they are or from scratch, as known for public service like Barry Aquino and the Vice President.

Symptoms of problems

The rapid expansion of our electorate, consisting of more and more poor people, more uneducated and dependent voters, and increasing political competition have increased the cost of campaigning and incumbency for the political leaders acting as patrons of their constituents.

Our continuing neoliberal society and poor-driven political culture shape our dysfunctional institutions, political parties, presidential-basic of government and unitary system of national-local government relations.

The cost of elections is rising at alarming rates, except that in the industrialized democracies where more middle class citizens contribute to the campaign of their party candidates. Moreover, the state supports the political parties through subsidies.

In contrast, our middle class is not as broad and deep and effective as a countervailing force to the political establishment, although middle class members are becoming more assertive and our media are vigilant.

Again, many of our voters are poor dependents of their political patrons. These conditions put great pressure on our politicians to use their power and influence to raise funds for their political survival often through short-cut ways or patronage of pimps, pork barrel politics and influence-peddling.

Accountable politics

Political dynasties are thus the causal and consequence of our ineffective and value-contradictory patron-client democracy and personalized parties plagued by misuse of power, corruption and wastage of some resources, and of our rapid population growth and continuing underdevelopment.

We cannot begin to change our political system that breeds these ills without basic structural and institutional reforms, as we critics and Chinese change advocates keep saying and writing about.

We need to organize nationwide and democratic political parties based on a defined ideology and principles of governance and reform, with regular dues paying members who continually engage the voters in discussing local and national issues and problems affecting them, and who choose their candidates and candidates for public office.

In this way, the members own the political party and are not beholden to wealthy patrons. In time, this kind of political parties will help build an alternative to our neoliberal political parties which are basic and oppressive tolerance of politicians and political dynasties.

Without these various reforms, we cannot develop our economy to make it more productive, competitive, equitable and inclusive in its growth and benefits. We cannot control the excessive growth of our population and upgrade our environment.

Challenge to P-Noy

We do need a transforming President to assist our legislature, local government leaders, civil society and media to forge the political system, and gradually our political dynasties. This is the true challenge to leaders who say they are committed to change. This is the real direction of "daang matuwid" struggle publicly.

To be sustainable, fighting corruption and developing the economy cannot depend on our President's charismatic alone, however well-meaning and popular and trusted he is. These require dynamic functional institutions and a critical mass of transforming leaders gradually replacing our political dynasties.

The latter includes economic growth, population control and a sustainable environment in a word, we need good democratic governance that will enable us in the long run to "build a just and humane society."

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FAMILY ENTERPRISE

Definitions, issues

- **Dictionary.** "A family that establishes and maintains predominance in a particular field...in three or more generations. A dynast is a person who himself or belongs to a family powerful in a particular field."
- **Sen. Franklin Lacson's take.** "A political dynasty only exists when members of the same family occupy simultaneous terms of office, whether in national or local levels. In reverse, unbecoming to use his/her said term, siblings, and husband could make it one planner."
- **Lacson is referring to** whose dynastic aspirations developing in the former after the 2013 elections. The chamber already has an existing brother-sister set and recently saw a mother-son tandem. "It would be worse if they hold every in the same province or in the same town as governor and mayor. That in my view, view it at least a clear definition of a political dynasty," he says.

Since he also frowns political dynasty as unnecessary only if members from vast family's economic resources exists, Lacson clearly does not see any constitutional issue in his view, Joy, running for vice-governor to their favorite home province in 2013.

- **Sen. Defensor-Santiago's interpretation.** In her recently filed Sen. 2849, Santiago says a political dynasty exists "when a person who is the spouse of an incumbent elective official or of a relative within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity of an elective official holds or runs for an election of his or another elective official within the same province or municipality or city where the incumbent elective official resides immediately after the term of office of the incumbent elective official."

"It shall be deemed to exist when two or more persons, who are spouses or are related within the second civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to an incumbent elective official within the same province, run for elective office in succession," she said.

- **Still searching for a legal definition** of what the Constitution regards as political dynasties to be prohibited by law.

The Senate committee on electoral reforms, led by Sen. Aquilino Pimentel III, is looking for a definition of what a political dynasty is.

- **Don't define it by law.** Let the voters decide what relationships define a political dynasty and punish the members by not voting for them.
- **Opposition to constitutional prohibition** of political dynasties in elective positions. However, Ed Abaya of the National Movement on Free Elections said recognizing a family from holding more than one incumbency for political office would be detrimental as it could deprive the country of the services of a competent leader. Abaya said he was for letting the voters decide.

Called to serve, Jun Magsaysay returns

From page A1

I'm sick. Why will I say it I'm sick?" Magsaysay, who underwent prostate surgery in 2006, told Inquirer editors and reporters on Thursday night last week.

"In the US Senate, of the 100 senators, 47 percent are in their 70s. And what includes John McCain and my brother Mark? Ted Kennedy? John Kerry? Joe Biden? Joe? Richard Lugar? Dianne Feinstein? I'm in that element. The Senate is a very deliberative body. It puts a lot of importance in a person," Magsaysay said.

Call to serve

Magsaysay said he was up to his neck on the dairy farm overseeing the production of fresh cow's milk, fine-cut chocolates, white cheese, ice cream and yogurt and other dairy products when he got a call from Sen. Franklin Drilon in May.

"He said, 'I think you should come back. If you want to help out in the reforms, this is the time.' Impeachment was raging," he said, referring to the impeachment trial of Chief Justice Renato Corona, who was later found guilty and removed from office for underdeclaring his assets, a violation of the Constitution.

Magsaysay sensed "something unusual" happening in the Aquino administration, and, over the reservations of some members of his family, responded to Drilon's call to run for the Senate with the Liberal Party, his party when he was elected to the House of Representatives in 1995. He met with President Aquino in July.

"I saw it as a challenge," he said. "I'm just looking at how I can help in the administration, to try to improve on governance, simplify the process of doing business, streamline taxation, lessen bureaucracy."

As the administration coalition, the plan is for candidates to campaign in groups of three, and when the campaign goes in full swing in February until you Magsaysay is expected to hammer with the President's cousin, Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, and re-electionist Rodolfo Biazon.

Modern campaign

"There's nothing like pressing flesh," he said, but conceded that he still need to mount a campaign on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter to connect with tech-savvy young voters. He plans to have his own Twitter account.

Magsaysay is excited about the When young voters Google his name, he said, they'll find out he's also a "techie." After all, he was elected the Efficient Government in 1998, for another six-year term.

MAGSAYSAY

In 2008, as chair of the agriculture committee, he opposed an ongoing into the diversion of the P728 million rice fund to support political use in the 2004 presidential election, which then incumbent President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo won.

The committee recommended the filing of criminal charges against key players in the Fertilizer Fund scam, " including the alleged "chief architect," former Agriculture Undersecretary Jocelyn "Joc-joc" Bolante.

Last year, after years of delay, plunder charges were filed in the Sandiganbayan against Bolante, former Agriculture Secretary Luis "Lito" Lorenzo, and former Agriculture Assistant Secretary Bienvenido Pelingal and several others.

"I think there's political will in the Aquino administration to put the bad guys behind," Magsaysay said. Otherwise he would be "very disappointed," he added.

Magsaysay said he told the President that the prosecution of the respondents in the fertilizer scam case and the perpetrators of the Nov. 23, 2009, Maguindanao massacre, in which 57 people, including 32 journalists, were killed, should be expedited.

Another Magsaysay

The opposition has thrown a roadblock to upset Magsaysay's second run for the Senate: another Magsaysay in the race.

The race is tight, and a senatorial seat running against him may pose some problems for Magsaysay. But he believes a withdrawal by Zambales Rep. Mitos "Mitz" Magsaysay will boost his chances.

The two Magsaysays have to fight it out with at least 31 candidates, including more "popular" members of Congress, to gain one of the 12 seats at stake in next year's midterm elections.

Magsaysay acknowledges that the listing of Mitos' name ahead of his on the ballot is a disadvantage. But he said she won't a major cause he every. He was more concerned with senatorial senators and congressmen running the top on in 18 slots in the ballots.

"We'll have to campaign hard," he said. "Either it and my immediate concern, although she can help since it the candidates."

Caught for comment, Mitos said: "Don't be opinion, but I'm not underestimating. It's too early to gauge what's going to unfold next. The battle lines are not even started. I don't think anybody should be that confident at this point."

In a survey released ahead of the President's announcement in early September that Magsaysay was on the cabinet's "short continue's ticket, Magsaysay ranked 12th to 14th. Mitos placed further ahead, which Magsaysay saw as a sign that voters could distinguish him from Mitos.

Mitos is the daughter-in-law of Magsaysay's cousin, former Zambales Gov. Vicente Magsaysay. A House ancestry leader and loyal ally of Arroyo, Mitos is the Magsaysays representative in the House, which is currently dominated by allies of President Aquino Binay.

Political dynasty

The son of President Ramon Magsaysay, who served from Dec. 30, 1953, to his death in a plane crash on March 17, 1957, Magsaysay said he disapproved of political dynasties. But he said "control" relatives from running for public office because "it's a democracy."

"My sister is running for her seat in the House.

"Maybe because we have a small family. If I'm running, nobody is running in our immediate family," Magsaysay said.

He did not disclose the possibility of two Magsaysays both winning the senatorial race and ending up with a political dynasty of their own in the Senate, though "without intending to," But he quickly added, "I'm with the opposition," that's with the opposition."

So what's wrong with being 'ninong'?

From page A1

as a sponsor at the wedding of the daughter of the two accused.

A brother of the murdered Ozamiz brothers on Monday questioned the propriety of Bautista's and concurrent Supreme Court Justice de Mesa Bruno's standing as principal sponsors at the wedding on Monday of the daughter of one of the principal accused convicted of the 1997 murder of Michael and Paul Sandoz in Manila on the Ozamiz brothers.

Villarosa, a former congressman and his former mayor convicted by a lower court and sentenced to death for the double murder, but the decision was overturned by the Court of Appeals. Bautista, as the then solicitor general, recommended to the appellate court that Villarosa and three of his codefendants be acquitted for insufficiency of evidence.

The Supreme Court panel upheld the Supreme Court to reverse the appellate court decision acquitting Villarosa. The case is now pending in the high court's second division.

Robert Quintos, a brother of the slain Ozamiz brothers, questioned the propriety of Bruno and de Mesa's role in the wedding of the Villarosa daughter, pointing out that the two should not be socializing with litigants whose cases are being heard by their courts.

He said that with the two justices' close association with the Villarosas, the question arose about the "impropriety of all past and future recommendations and decisions with respect to Mr. Villarosa."

Bautista, who chairs Ateneo Law Foundation, which operates Ateneo University School of Law in Manila, disagreed that there is something improper in his recommendation to acquit Villarosa.

"I would feel the position taken by the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) was worked out after a thorough study of the evidence on record, and after discussion with the members of the division of the OSG assigned to the case, headed by a senior assistant solicitor general. It," Bautista said in a statement sent through his son, lawyer Antonio Eduardo Jr. of Acci's Law office.

"Please note that the OSG position was based mainly on its appreciation of the evidence, and is not binding nor even persuasive on the courts. The fact that the Court of Appeals, also on the basis of the same evidence on record, acquitted accused-convicts but other accused-in-effect validated the OSG position on the matter," Bautista said.

The public information office of the Supreme Court has yet to confirm if Bruno, as a member of the recommending, was part of the panel of justices in the handling of the Ozamiz appeal.

Based on Supreme Court internal memorandums, Bruno became a member of the second division in June 2011. Before that, he was a member of the first division.

Customarily, the position as to whom a case is originally raffled would continue handling it even if they are later transferred to other divisions. The exception — if their actions, later, in case of retirements and inhibitions — would then render a decision as a "special" in "en banc" decision.

The high court's acting public information chief, Ms. Victoria Gleenoly Ramos, said the court "has appropriate rules applicable to conflicts and ethical situations that Justice Bruno can apply."

The late Michael and Paul Sandoz were the sons of Ricardo Quintos, a political rival of Villarosa. The Quintos brothers' eldest child died the morning of same while attending a birthday party in Mandaluyong in December 1997. Villarosa was not named Villarosa, who was the congressman at the time, of murdering the children.

The Villarosas are by relatives of former President and now Pampanga Rep. Diosdado Macapagal Arroyo. Arroyo, in effect time, who once holds the congressional seat formerly held by her husband, is a close friend of Arroyo and other administration officials, including President, in her travels. Arroyo is a principal sponsor of the wedding.

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US polls in final stretch

From page A1

Israel and Nick Petty, along with Obama's 2008 rival John McCain.

In all, 45 lawmakers and relatives of the candidates and running mate Paul Ryan—counting Romney jock-strapped the rally onto the Republican stronghold of Cuyahoga.

"We're almost home. One final push will get us there," Romney said before crowd police estimated to be at least 15,000 strong. "We are so very, very close. The door to a brighter future is there, it's open, it's waiting for us."

More jobs

Obama had earlier rivaled a last-minute time bomb as the economy jumped out seven jobs than expected in October, delivering a boost to his reelection hopes in the final stretch of campaigning in Ohio.

Obama and Romney both lined in solos on the month's jobs report to espouse their bases and sway the few undecided voters still out there. The numbers held something for both candidates, showing the monthly unemployment rate ticked up slightly—but counted far more jobs than expected.

Obama argued the report proved his policies over the last four years have put the United States on the road to recovery. The Democratic incumbent intoned voters that a Romney presidency would "dig us right back to the policies that got the United States into financial trouble in the first place under the Republican predecessor George W. Bush."

Romney called the report a "sad statement about the economy in a recent presidency" and warned again of its political paralysis and numbers to restore if Obama reclaims the White House.

Obama will face voters with the highest unemployment rate of any incumbent since Franklin Roosevelt during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The government report showed the United States added a solid 171,000 jobs in October, and more than a half-million Americans joined the work force, the latest signs that the economy's economic recovery is gaining strength once again. But the unemployment rate inched up to 7.9 percent because not all those joining the work force found work.

It was the final snapshot of the economy before the election on Tuesday.

While the politically neutral report was unlikely to affect the election outcome, it brought the economy back into the national conversation in a country still preoccupied with the devastation wrought by Superstorm Sandy on the US East Coast.

Obama pounced on campaigning for three days this week to manage the natural disaster, Romney mulled criticism of the President during three days he lost of supposing to seek political advantage while American were suffering, and his campaign watched awkwardly as a more pro-active Obama ran the show. Jobless's Republican Gov. Chris Christie praised the President and toured storm damage with him.

Solidifying position

After several weeks of polls suggesting a critical shift, analysts were there were now signs that Obama's position, as he seeks a second term, may be solidifying.

National polls of the popular vote now mostly show a razor-race with neither team up one point, as most states remain essentially where Obama's position in key battleground states seems to be holding.

The candidates that runs the White House will need to snare 270 electoral votes on that same key count map.

Obama is taking votes for a narrow term, despite the dismal economic recovery, while Romney is striking a quick comeback for Republicans after George W. Bush left office in 2009 with the party in disarray.

All Obama's polling leads were within the margins of error, however, and both campaigns, though expressing confidence, will face a new wave night as results tell to on Tuesday and test their accompanies about the race.

Obama, perhaps mindful of millions of Americans suffering from after-shocks of Sandy, urged voters to remember the 1930s, troubled a triumphal note on the jobs data that sent relief rippling through his campaign team.

Economy improving

The release of the final major economic data before the election had averted Obama aides who feared find a loop in the sun above the psychological 8-percent mark could have cast late-deciding voters to Romney.

But although the data was far from spectacular—with 171,000 jobs created last month—there was enough in the report, including upward revisions of previous monthly figures, for Obama to argue the economy was improving.

"We have made real progress. But we've got more work to do," Obama said, in his last day on the first stop of a defining swing through small towns in Ohio, which could be a tipping point state in a tied up election.

Romney highlighted the fact that, although the economy is creeping jobs at a moderate pace, unemployment remains far above the 5.6 percent he inherited from Bush.

"For four years, President Obama's policies have crushed American's middle class," Romney said on a statement.

"When I'm president, I'm going to make real changes that lead to a recovery that's more than the mere four years are better than the last," said Romney, who entered his day in Florida and ended it in Ohio.

Managing facts

Obama, campaigning in Ohio on Friday, warned Romney's claim to bring an agent of change, assuring him instead of trying to "manage the facts," highlighting a Romney act for that cluster that Chrysler plans to outsource jobs to China to produce its Jeep vehicles.

"I know Governor Romney was an election, but that isn't a guess. Those are people's jobs. Those are people's lives," Obama said, noting that auto bosses had directly contradicted Romney on the attack.

The President repeatedly touts his decision to bail out indebted US automakers in a politically unpopular 2009 move that helped restart the industry's health.

One in eight jobs in Ohio are linked to the sector, and Romney's opposition to the bailout has emerged as a liability for the Republican.

Obama leads

A CNN/Opinion Research poll showed Obama up three points in Ohio, matching his average in the RealClearPolitics aggregate of opinion surveys as the state is 2.4 points.

The President also leads Romney in enough of the eight or so swing states to assure himself of the 270 electoral votes needed for reelection, if polling close to confirmed by voting. *Reporting from AFP and AP*

Voting machines raise concerns

WASHINGTON—Vote count in even small elections have become complicated, so the result could be clouded by problems with voting machines ... again.

Twelve years after the Florida presidential debacle in which thousands of votes went uncounted in the crucial state, some experts say the nation's concerns about voting technology.

"I'm not sure we've made forward progress since 2000," said Douglas Jones, a University of Iowa computer science and coauthor of a book published this year, "Broken Ballots."

"We're just a tremendous effort into changing the voting systems, but in some cases we've decided systems we quickly and replaced those with systems that we have not examined enough.

Jones said technology used in some vote machines is more close to jobs-like old and should be updated. And some systems have records that are not able to be accounts or audits, he noted.

"Whatever an election is done all of the breakdowns, because happens," he said. "I expect there will be some states where the margin is so close that people will raise questions about the accuracy of results."

A frequent target for critics is the use of touchscreen voting machines, which lack a paper backup. Around 25 percent of Americans are expected to use paperless electronic voting, according to the Verified Voting Foundation.

A report on the issue this year by two civil-rights groups and the Harper Brotherhood School of Law said concerns used in 29 states were either "inadequate" or need of improvement.

That includes 14 states that use paperless machines to some or all jurisdictions. Six states were ranked "good" and 200 "generally good."

Experiments "Grandyle" Information has added another element of uncertainty, says Thad Hall, of University of Indianapolis, co-author said researcher for the Voting Technology Project.

"It's pretty ironic that [vote machines] still exist, and for as long as they haven't lost," he said. "It also seems that we're moving on paper ballots roll out later the size of computer to identify errors in that ballots."

'Sandy' casualty: NY Marathon

From page A1

One man in New York's Queens borough who tried to drive his BMW vehicle ahead of efforts in his race changed with pulling a gun on another driver.

Amid the city's struggles, Bloomberg vowed his native promise that the city's marathon should go ahead as to open it residence.

He had been under growing pressure from critics who said the marathon would divert badly needed police and other resources.

"The marathon has always brought our city together and inspired us with stories of courage and determination. We would not want a cloud to hang over the race in any respects, and we've been decided to cancel it," Bloomberg said in a surprise statement.

Not year to run

The cancellation of the 40-year-old New York Marathon was cheered by New Yorkers who organized a social media campaign accusing the mayor of "disrespecting" the city's spirit.

Mary Wittenberg, president of the New York Road Runners organizing group, was disappointed but philosophical about the turn of events.

"The best thing for New York and the best thing for the marathon for the future is not having it," she said. "Without any question. This isn't the year or the time to run it."

The marathon typically brings the city $340 million, but insisted that would have been lost, organizers said, because as many as 10,000 of the field of nearly 45,000 runners would not have come this year because of the damage.

Basketball season

But the basketball season rolled on, with the New York Knicks beating reigning NBA champion Miami Heat 104-94 on Friday night in the first major sports event in New York since Sandy struck on Monday.

A packed house in famed Madison Square Garden showed the Knicks in their season opener against the Heat. The Knicks had been scheduled to play on Thursday at Brooklyn but that game was canceled due to storm damage.

"It felt a lot about New York City," the Knicks' Carmelo Anthony, who scored 38 points, said. "We came together in tough times. We all know what happened with Hurricane Sandy. But the city came together tonight." *(Story related story on Page A10.)*

Benefit concert

Entertainers also tried to cheer up Sandy's victims, with big stars singing for them Friday night at NBC's benefit concert at Rockefeller Center in midtown Manhattan, several blocks north of where the city went for days without power.

Hosted by Matt Lauer and featuring performances by Christina Aguilera, Billy Joel and Bruce Springsteen, the benefiting event was heavy on stars and lyrics identified with New Jersey and the New York metropolitan area, which took the brunt of this week's deadly storm.

The telethon was a mix of music, storm footage and celebrity interviews, but Stevie Van Zandt, Tina Fey, Whoopi Goldberg and others.

The mood was somber but hopeful, from Aguilera's "Beautiful" to Bon Jovi's "Living on a Prayer" and a soulful Billy J. Ripp's "Living Proof."

Joel packed out with "Piano Man" Owen on Ledger, Cuomo on Broadway!," a song born from 1974, New York City's near bankruptcy in the 1970s, while Jimmy Fallon gamely led an all-star performance of the Doobies' "Under the Boardwalk" that featured Joel, Springsteen and Steven Tyler.

The Avenues & Jessica as does out beloved a piano, and Lopez for all on a streamed but deeply emotional "Jessica On."

Many were equally passionate during an acoustic, muscular version of the Police hit "Message in a Bottle."

The show ended, as it easily could, with Springsteen and the E Street Band, teaming with "Land of Hope and Dreams."

God Bless New York," Springsteen, Bon Jovi and several matters into. And in conclusion, "God Bless the New Jersey State."

The New York region needed that as it pressed to find vehicle fuel in its emergency return to life.

Fuel crisis

Many motorists have gasoline but no electricity to power the pumps and handle payments. Some station owners refuse to open until police move on patrol.

At Essex County in New Jersey, authorities were limiting even police and fire vehicles to half a tank. Some drivers said they waited up to 3½ hours to fill up.

The American automobile association estimates that 40 percent of gas stations in New Jersey and 70 percent in New York's long Island are closed. Authorities say 13 of the 34 fleet of terminals around New York have no power.

Jefferson Manhattan, commuters are waiting up to 3½ hours to fill up. Fewer vans, according to the New York Taxi and Limousine Commission.

The government, meanwhile, brought in fuel from other states and reopened ports to get supplies moving.

Despite progress in Manhattan, the lack of electricity also continued to afflict tens of thousands of homeowners.

Some areas of New York area have to wait until Nov. 11 before getting power back.

National Guard troops handed out 200,000 meals and 1,000 bottles of water in the first day of an emergency aid operation in New York, Bloomberg said.

Hundreds also queued for free items as preserve food given out in Union Square.

Crime under lid

One good thing going for New York despite the crisis is that it has kept the lid on crime and looting, in contrast to the disorder that marred New Orleans seven years ago after Hurricane "Katrina."

The August 2005 storm in Louisiana saw widespread violence, crime and looting while the authorities were distracted with search and rescue operations in completely downtrodden circumstances.

In contrast, the New York Police Department, the most modern in the United States, was quickly deployed through the city on Monday in sturdy bright uniforms, fleets and armed damage.

Despite huge power outs as a result of flooding and wind, looting and other crime have been kept low. Police Commissioner Ray Kelly said on Thursday.

Kelly said he was only aware of two incidents: 18 people were broke into a food store in the Queens borough and two people arrested for robbery during another incident on Staten Island.

Marathon controversy

Bloomberg has deftly handled the challenges of responding to one of the most devastating storms to hit the United States, but the mayor's improvers could put a dent in his standing.

Protests began in petitions on Twitter and other social networks, before petitioners joined in.

Bloomberg defended his initial decision, and the running New York pushed on with the marathon after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks and had to do so again.

But Staten Island community leaders complained bitterly that they had been forgotten as aid poured into other districts. At least 18 people died on Staten Island, and some large waves swept away homes.

The race itself have scheduled to start Sunday in Staten Island, with up to 45,000 runners from around the world expected to take part in the 42-kilometer event.

They can come back next year. *Reports from AFP and AP*

Archbishop Tagle: Good chemistry with Pope

From page A1

faith of Filipino Catholics.

"The Holy Father wants our archdiocese to be always close to him so that our experiences, particularly our testimonies of faith, would become part of his universal Church," he added.

At the end of the homily at last Fernando, de Cifias Shehdi in Ukraine, Manila, Tagle said the diocesan event was "so unexpected."

Filipinos recognized

"This is not me being recognized. It is the whole people of God here in Manila and in the Philippines who are being recognized," he said.

Tagle recalled his having worked with then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger for six years on the Vatican's International Theological Commission (ITC), which Church observers believe to be one of the factors in his appointment to Manila and his being named a cardinal.

The ITC is a select group of Catholic theologians drawn across the globe.

Twelve named scientists of the ITC for the first time by Pope John Paul II in 1997. But because there were a jubilee in 2000, our term was extended for one more year. Our head was then Cardinal Ratzinger who is now Pope Benedict XVI," said Tagle.

"So for almost five years, I worked with him. I didn't stay in Rome because I would go home to the Philippines) but we got to know each other and we may not have become very close friends. But at least in our work, we were together," he added.

Tagle recalled that at one time, he made a host pay during one of the ITC's formal meetings and it was Ratzinger who served him.

"At one time, we were all quite because there was no theologian giving a lecture. I was listening and was taking notes when the lecturer said something that surprised me," Tagle said.

"I blamed me. Huh? Forgetting that the microphone in front of me was turned on and so my reaction was heard in the entire hall. I felt ashamed and just bowed my head," he added.

Tagle said he wondered what Ratzinger, who as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) presided over the ITC, would think of what he did.

"So I slowly turned my head and looked at where he was sitting. It turned out he was also looking at me. When our eyes met, he winked at me. He was probably saying, 'It's okay.' So, he also has that sense of humor," he added.

Tagle said he was also present at the formal launching of the "Year of Faith" in the Manila archdiocese to mark the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th year of the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Among those who attended the Mass were his parents, Manuel and Milagros Tagle, and former bishop-adviser to the lecture Bernard Oca.

'Practical atheists'

Tagle warned Filipino Catholics against being "practical atheists" or people claiming to believe in God but not practicing their faith.

"We should proclaim our faith and not be ashamed about it. Because when a person would pass by a Church, everyone would make the sign of the cross at the same time. Nowadays, some are ashamed to show their faith," Tagle said.

"Why be afraid to say, 'I'm a Catholic.' Why be afraid to say 'I'm a believer.' Maybe we have become like those persons in whom we refer with these lips claim they have their faith but in practice avoid proclaiming that he or she is a Christian," he added.

Fr. Jonathan Arevalo, S.J., a member of the ITC for 12 years and its first Asian member, said Tagle developed "good chemistry" with Ratzinger—one of the "theatre factors" that led to Tagle becoming Manila archbishop and cardinal.

Good friends

"I think he really likes Chito. They became good friends at the commission. They had good chemistry," Arevalo said in an interview at Loyola House of Studies in Quezon City.

Arevalo, who was appointed to the commission's fourth in 1974, said the Pope was apparently impressed with Tagle's work on the commission and they became good friends even though Ratzinger was by personality "very reserved."

"I know for a fact that they became friends. Because in that commission, Wow, that has to be taken on carefully because Cardinal Ratzinger was usually very reserved. He was not a very outgoing person," Arevalo said.

He said the Pope's "very warm" to Tagle because of their connection after he became Supreme Pontiff in 2005.

"At the beginning of his pontificate, when he began to change, they were calling him Ina Gamba, which is the usual title in Italian for Cardinal Sodano. Now, Ina San Chaberra, or 'sweetness,'" Arevalo said.

Arevalo served on the ICT in the mid-1970s with the then Fr. Ratzinger, who was already a famous theologian, having served as an expert in the Second Vatican Council, and again in the early 1980s when Ratzinger presided over the commission as CDF chief.

"But within this reservation, Tagle and Ratzinger became good friends, as much as that I have a story from Archbishop Tagle himself," he added.

Arevalo said Chito, in one of the commission's meetings, Ratzinger praised Tagle when the chapter of a theological document he was assigned to work on was passed without any serious objection from the other members. Ratzinger noted that it was the first time that happened.

However, Arevalo said it was not just because Pope Benedict personally knew Tagle that he became Manila archbishop.

"It would probably not be because of that. There are other factors. People in the know believe that perhaps the most decisive single factor was that former Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales really wanted him to be his successor," Arevalo said.

Strong recommendation

"Cardinal Rosales did not make it a secret that he was strongly recommending Archbishop Tagle to his successor," he added.

Arevalo said that Archbishop Edward Adams, the Papal Nuncio to the Philippines at the time of the changing of the guard in Manila, also favored Tagle.

Arevalo also said that Benedict XVI reportedly even "leaned toward" when Tagle's appointment to Manila last year was delayed by "objections" from some groups in the country.

"Chito's nomination was made in May (2011). As a matter of fact, Cardinal Rosales had said goodbye to all the parishes by the end of May because he was told that Archbishop Tagle was to succeed him as the end of May," Arevalo said.

"It did not happen because there were individuals and groups in the Philippines who were pushing for some other candidates and they were trying to convince the Holy Father... by letters that (Tagle) was not the right person," he said.

Objections

Arevalo said unverified reports from Rome said the Pope asked Vatican officials why Tagle's appointment had not been announced.

When he was told that there were "objections," the Holy Father supposedly asked if they had checked if these were true.

"(When) they said, 'No we have not found any truth to the most negative comments,' (the Pope) supposedly said: 'Fix' the Archbishop of Manila. It's for

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Rizal kin embrace hero's . . .

From page A1

though he told the honoree that as a friend, "you are the standards, and try to be as honorable as the great man."

Bing came to Australia a year before the fall of the Marcos dictatorship. He confessed to still feeling uneasy about his ancestry, but is emphatic that his decision to join the revered family of Rizal doesn't make him any different from the rest of mankind.

"Tayong mga ordinary citizens our relatives. I was lucky enough to have descended from that family," he said.

Bloodline

Bing's maternal grandmother, Adela Rizal Hidalgo, was the eldest daughter of Manuel Timoteo Hidalgo and Saturnina, Jose Rizal's eldest sister.

Their mother Bing's mother, Emma, who turned 90 on May 7, the oldest living direct descendant of the Rizal family according to Bing.

Emma married Ramon Sears, who turned 99 last month. They live in Greenhills, San Juan, where Bing paid them a visit in January this year.

Bing's family now lives in Bridges, New South Wales, a five-hour drive from Sydney.

Asked how it felt to be a descendant of the national hero living in a foreign land, Bing said he remains a true-blue Filipino in blood and soul.

"Pinoy ng Pinoy pa rin (Still very much a Filipino)," he said.

Bright kids

Bing and his family—wife Ardee, 50, and children Isaac, Adele and Jared—were present when President Aquino attended the official course in Bonifacio in Campbell, near City in suburban Sydney on Oct. 20.

Bing's eldest child, Isaac, has the body that won him the top place in a body-building contest in Canberra and the brains that drove him to finish his master's degree in statistics at Australian National University.

Fluent in Spanish, daughter Adele is pursuing a double-degree in languages and mathematics. She wants to follow in her father's footsteps.

Son Jared, a disc jockey, is in his senior year at the University of Sydney, studying physiotherapy.

"Jared is quite well-regarded as a part-time DJ as well. He goes by the name 'Down Kid,'" says Bing.

His wife, Helen, works as an office administrator in an accounting firm.

Asked why his children seemed to have put a high premium on education, Bing said: "In a way, we (as followed) the Rizal traditions of education. That's one thing we were shared with our Filipino cousins."

Also present at the meeting were select members of the Aquino Cabinet, Ambassador to Australia Bebot Amoin, Ambassador to the Philippines Bill Tweddell, New South Wales Premier Barry O'Farrell and Campbelltown Mayor Sue Schroen.

The simple ceremony capped close to five years of fundraising by Filipino communities here for the statue, which cost at least $100,000 to ship to Australia and put up in place.

The statue itself was donated by renowned Filipino sculptor Eduardo Castrillo.

'Powerful symbol'

In his speech, the President described the statue as "a powerful symbol of this new chapter to an old friendship."

Mr. Aquino said the monument "pays homage to his ideals and will be an enduring pledge that those ideals will continue to guide us, and that Australians will be there as our friends, to our country for generations here to be our peoples."

Bing's family "felt honored" by the President's presence as well as the efforts of the Filipino community, particularly the Rizal Park Monument of Campbelltown City formed under the initiative of former Consul General Patricia Licuanan.

Describing himself as semi-retired, he now teaches mathematics, tutoring some 40 high school students per week.

Bing wants to be remembered as a "humble mathematics teacher in Medjee."

"I find helping young students in their tenth very rewarding. Most of them have gone to universities doing really high powered courses like law and medicine. It is nice to impart knowledge to young people," he added.

Bing obtained his Math degree from the Imperial College in London, one of the top universities in the world.

Bing was brought to the Australian shores in 1982, when Ian Miguel Corporation sent him as manager for operations research.

"Ian Miguel sent me here for some fellowship in management science. This was the time of the Batasan. It's Ian Miguel still here). I might have met Mr. Dambing (Corporation) at the hotel over the chandelier of Sarfelipod (Ivan Andres Soriano) for a year before I left," said Bing, who worked for Ian Miguel for around 10 years, starting in 1977.

While working for Ian Miguel in Australia, he met his fiance wife, Helen Phillips, who used to be his neighbor.

Bing and Helen got married in 1986.

When he left Ian Miguel in 1985, he worked for less than a year in the Mathematics department of the University of South Wales.

When Cojuangco's favorite client of Ian Miguel, he contacted him shortly.

"When he asked me if I wanted to manage fisheries in Medjee, I said, 'yes,'" recalled Bing, describing the farm as nestled in a "beautiful quiet town, some place to raise my children."

Bing worked for the farm that was raising threatened species, cattle and sheep and also fruit vineyards.

He was managing director of the farm from 1998 to 1999.

What about spending retirement in educational as lovingly described as "La Isetta Adorada?"

Bing's answer is unequivocal.

"Oh yes. That's sure thing, that I have to discuss with my wife in the future," he said.

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NOVEMBER 5, 2012 - START OF CLASSES

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2012

Vietnam has sentenced a 61-year-old Filipina to death after she was caught smuggling five kilos of methamphetamine hydrochloride (shabu) into Hanoi. Vietnam's drug laws are among the toughest in the world.
—Department of Foreign Affairs

GLOBAL Pinoy

Gina Monica Feria

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

A 'Bahay Pinoy' in Vientiane

By Eunice Barbara Navio

VIENTIANE, Lao People's Democratic Republic—If you are a Filipino worker from Thailand on a visa run, chances are, you will go to the Royal Thai Embassy in Laos and stay at Bahay Pinoy Guest House and Restaurant in Ban Bourkhamo, about 15 minutes from the embassy.

"Our guests are 90 percent Filipinos," says Armad "George" Hiya, the owner of Bahay Pinoy.

A visa-run means leaving a country before the allowed period of stay runs out then returning for a renewed period of stay.

George, 48, a native of Tiaong is a civil engineer working with the Bangkok office of an international engineering company. He is married to a Laotian, Bouvary Phanphouvanxay, with whom he has three children.

George has been in and out of the country since 1990 when his company sent him to open an infrastructure project in Savannakhet Province. He is now a permanent resident in Laos.

Laos is a communist socialist country. "For years the progress of Laos, it was locked-door policies until it opened up for business opportunities. Laos is still poor and largely depends on development aid, but it is now on its way to development," George says.

"In 1995, Laos was very strict. Bibles, Roman and religious articles were prohibited. All your things were heavily scrutinized here," he recalls.

After George and Bouvary got married in 1998, he decided to reside in Laos.

Growing Pinoy community

"There were already Filipinos here, but the bulk of Filipinos coming the Thai Lao border to enrollment when Thailand started hiring foreign teachers in early 2000s," he says.

George and Bouvary's first business was a rent-to-own furniture starting with three utility vehicles. Dozens of foreign embassies were his usual clients because cars were scarce then. His clients included Philippine delegations during important events.

In 2008, Bahay Pinoy a seven-room guest house opened. Another Filipino guesthouse was called Kabayan but it closed last December.

"Even before we opened the guesthouse, Filipino-Laotian-in-laws asked for our help in emergencies—like repatriation of bodies, aid for those who were ill, food-tasting, etc.," he says. "Thus I realized I could help more of our kababayans if I had a guesthouse. At the same time we give jobs to Laotians."

At present, under the management of his wife, Bahay Pinoy employs five staffers who can speak and understand a little Filipino.

Consul Cris Arco gave him the idea to name the guesthouse Bahay Pinoy to communicate to Filipinos that "this is their home away from home."

Adobo and singang

Communities in Laos are expansive to many Filipinos and even other nationalities usually

share one small room in our area. At Bahay Pinoy, George tries to make the room reasonably priced and at the same time large enough to accommodate more people in a room.

At their dining center, the menu is a combination of Filipino dishes like adobo, sinigang and lapulap, as well as Thai, Lao and American dishes.

"All processed foods are imported. They do not have processing plants. At least once they have a brewery, the Beer Lao. There is also a multidrink plant (Pepsi) and a coconut factory. That is why everything is expensive here," he explains.

Historical Relationship

The Filipino community in Laos is relatively small. About 600 are working in various companies and as development workers of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The growing need for English teachers is also attracting Filipinos in Laos. In 2007, Laos joined the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. That same year, then President Fidel V. Ramos visited and a Philippine embassy opened.

Presently, the Philippine Ambassador to Laos is Maria Lourdes Bautista, Ph.D.

The relationship between the Philippines and Laos is said to have started during the early years of the Vietnam War in 1955. From 1957 to 1964, Operation Brotherhood (OB), a project of the Ramon Magsaysay Award, sent 50 volunteers (5 physicians, agriculturists, and nutritionists in Vietnam and Laos.

"I've met a doctor who was once a volunteer of OB. He was once stationed in Laotian and their children were raised here," says George.

Discounted fares

Laotians have a high regard for Filipinos. Filipinos are given discounted fares on the tuktuk (a vehicle similar to a tricycle) while other foreigners are charged higher, shares George.

"Although most of them no longer remember OB, many Laotians know that Filipinos somehow played a role in the rebuilding of their country. From fundamentals to governmental service, a Filipino is there," George explains.

On the contributions of other countries, George says, "Americans bring in medical aid, Japanese and Chinese, business. The Japanese construct bridges and roads. Filipinos are mostly in education and social services."

"Bilateral-ing (soft-sell)s. Being a Filipino is a gift," ends George.

In spite of the difficulties and high cost of living, the Filipinos strive to carve a niche in Laos.

ARMAD "George" Hiya of Tiaong, Quezon and his Laotian wife, Bouvary Phanphouvanxay, are up for success—now Bahay Pinoy Guest House is 2009

THE GUESTHOUSE in Laos is hosting more and more Filipinos who are visiting, working and doing business there.

Do OFWs make successful entrepreneurs?

By Susan K.

IT IS often said that the major reasons Filipino workers go overseas is to be able to acquire their own house and lot, provide better education for their children, and establish a sustainable business.

There are many success stories. But some also fail. There are overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) who, after many years toiling abroad, never were able to build their own homes; children did not finish school; and their business ventures flopped.

Some OFWs begin building businesses while still abroad, to withdraw to their savings. they take out additional loans for their project. When their ventures suffer financial loss, they are buried in debts.

Some other than not, OFWs initiate setting up a business. They base their sure ideas about how it should be operated. They get their family members or relatives to handle it.

In quite a number of cases, their family members or relatives are not able to make top of the business. One reason for the failure could be lack of knowledge and experience. Also, the family lack honest may can end. In like the nature of the business. Financial management skills could also be lacking.

Proper planning

So is it possible for our OFWs to become successful business owners?

According to our financial counselor Joyce Tesa of Inbusiness, proper planning should be prioritized by OFWs and their loved ones. This could involve setting household expenses to increase savings.

Starting a businesses should not be an overnight decision. It needs to be well-thought, well-planned, well-prepared, and should be handled by people who have enough knowledge in and passion for the type of business chosen.

Many OFWs end up returning their overseas contracts and work again because nothing happens to the business they set up.

Susan Ople, aka Susan K is on board at Radyo Inquirer 990 AM, Monday to Friday (2:30-4 p.m. with radio/video live streaming: www.dziq.am

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Families need to talk frankly about money matters

By Patricia Ringon
Contributor

MANY FILIPINO families have a hard time talking frankly about money matters—especially with the children. Not many batallion of overseas workers understand or realize that their loved ones overseas live months-to-month on their entire salaries. They want to secure money from the hand-to-mouth existence to some form.

I asked financial planning expert Vince Reginero from the Social Enterprise Development Partnerships, Inc., an organization that trains overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) to be financially independent, to shed some light on the matter. He made me realize the missing ingredient needed before any financial program or plan can work is healthy financial communications.

Do we know how OFWs have been doing in planning their finances?

VR: Based on my research, 98 percent of OFWs working in conglomerates abroad are in the rear-up stage. This means that they do not have emergency savings; they do not have insurance or if they do, the coverage is inadequate and they do not have anything planned for retirement.

So how do most OFWs spend their hard-earned money?

VR: OFWs typically place their hard-earned income in unproductive assets and consumptions due to the lack of financial planning and skills. When I talk to OFWs abroad especially the nonprofessionals, they equate sending their children to school, building a house, buying tricycle, or establishing a small business with achievements. These are confirmed by the beneficiaries during seminar-training sessions for them in the Philippines.

These achievements are not necessarily bad, but they never share that OFWs live abroad indefinitely.

In addition, OFWs rarely talk honestly with their family members, especially kids, about their financial state to help them understand the importance of proper expenditure. It is common to see OFW parents buying negative items, such as cell phones, for their children to compensate for their absence. As a result, their kids take money or expensive gifts from their parents or relatives for granted.

What is your financial advice for OFWs?

VR: Honest and clear communication with your family members on your finance and savings plan are very important. Don't be tempted by emotional or psychological verities. A **practical strategy here is for** OFWs to cut down the number of times they say 'yes' to any unplanned financial requests back home. By saying 'no', you would be able to save.

We also suggest OFWs share the financial responsibility with their beneficiaries, for example, having them manage daily household expenses such as food, electricity, rent and other utilities. The tendency is a lot of OFW families are highly susceptible to bad choices and so much so do not get pressured to get a job because of the remittance support. Remittances should be used primarily for construction or developmental expenses that the family previously could not afford.

The responsibility of a parent to a child should stop when the child reaches 21 years old, or when he or she finishes college. We advise OFWs to talk to their children and tell them that their allowance will only be good up to those months after they graduate. This is often a hard thing to do, but it helps them to look for a job and empower them. If they choose to live in the house of the parent, make them pay a share in the household expenses such as food, rent and utilities.

It is also an unhealthy emotional attachment to money that stops a lot of OFWs from budgeting and saving. Our strategy is to help OFWs understand and accept their current status in other words, we help identify the emotional baggage that they have and address them. Only then can they be able to act logically.

Vince is the president and CEO of SEDEP Group of Social Enterprises and the program manager for the Ateneo de Manila University Microfinance Capacity Building Program. Visit www.sedep.com for more information.

Patricia Ringon is a wife, mother of three, and the senior vice president of Workers' Union for East and South Asia. For questions and comments, e-mail the author at ringonpatricia@yahoo.com.

Bayron rules Eastwood Masters, grabs ADT overall lead

BAYRON

ANTIPOLO, Philippines—Jay Bayron of the Philippines won his third Asian Development Tour (ADT) title by forming Wen Chong-hsu of Chinese Taipei and Thailand's Nicholas Fung by one shot at the PGM Eastwood Golf Club by Wednesday.

Bayron, who entered the final round with a three-shot lead after rounds of 67-71-67, carded an even par 72 to win his second ADT title of the season, which propelled him to the top of the Order of Merit from third place overall.

Wen and Fung made a final round charge of 70 and 68, respectively, but had to settle for a tie for second at the $80,000 ADT event at Eastwood Valley Golf and Country Club.

Bayron, who topped the inaugural Thailand ADT Challenge in Jakarta last July, was delighted to overcome the pressure from Wen and Fung as he held on to his overnight lead with three birdies against no bogeys.

"I came from behind to win in Indonesia so to be leading going into the last day was different for me," said Bayron, who totaled 11 birdies par 277 and won $14,400.

The Filipino is now a step closer to securing a 2013 Asian Tour card as the top three players on the Order of Merit will earn playing rights on the region's established Tour. Bayron now leads the Order of Merit with total winnings of $30,889.

Bayron has a combined the 10001 lead over the second-scoring Peter Pathan discard Fung Jund, who has $20,483 so far.

Carl Jeanne Domingo carded a four-over 76 for the 10th with a 71 for 206. The rest of the Filipinos struggled with Mark Fernandez coming in 76-for 290, Charles Hong a 72 for 291, Jose Mendoza 72 for 291 and James Lucas 76 for 299.

Knicks give NY reason to cheer

But LA gloomy after Lakers go 0-3

NEW YORK—The New York Knicks gave the city's suffering residents something to cheer with a supposedly comfortable 104-88 win over the Miami Heat in their season-opener Friday night.

In the first sporting event in New York since Superstorm Sandy the Knicks dominated a game the Heat players seemed sure should even be played with the city still in ground-zero. But the Knicks hope their win could provide a distraction for a few hours, and fans who were able to watch surely loved what they saw from a team that could barely compete with Miami last season.

Carmelo Anthony had 18 points and 10 rebounds while Steve Novak, a non-factor against the Heat in last season's playoffs, added 17 points off the bench.

Jeffree James scored 21 points for the Heat, in impressive in a season-opening victory over Boston on Tuesday but never really in this one.

In much as the Knicks may be playing their fans, the Los Angeles Lakers are letting down theirs. The Lakers made it an 0-3 start to the season with a 105-99 loss to their in-town rival Los Angeles Clippers.

Even 40 points from Kobe Bryant was not enough to stop Pearl. The Lakers slipping to 0-3 for the first time since 1978.

Chris Paul had 15 points and 11 assists for the Clippers, who pulled away steadily in the second half.

Along with the Knicks, another team that looks to have improved—they could scarcely have got worse—is the Charlotte Bobcats, who edged the Indiana Pacers 99-89.

The Bobcats lost their final 20 games last season to finish 7-59, the worst winning percentage (.106) in NBA history, prompting owner Michael Jordan to promise the franchise had "hit rock bottom."

The Houston Rockets had a 108-102 win over the Atlanta Hawks, thanks chiefly to new signing James Harden, who scored a career-high 45 points. Another new Rocket, Jeremy Lin, had 23 points and 13 rebounds.

Harden's old team, the Oklahoma City Thunder, lost the Portland Trail Blazers 106-91 to snatch a fourth-straight win in home opener.

The Chicago Bulls crushed the Cleveland Cavaliers 113-86, making 46-of-93 shots from the field.

The Milwaukee Bucks won their first season opener by six years with a 99-88 win over the Boston Celtics. AP

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Donaire fighting a damaged foe in Arce

BOXING immortal TODY Donaire who is bothered when he learned that a Hooker Disaster Jr.-type Arce fight had been slated for Dec. 15. Shortly were rescinded when Nonito's last fight with Toshiaki Nishioka of Japan and even before his bloodied knockout-loss issues of his head.

"It's ridiculous how the studio-like man Filipino Nishioka can be matched for a title against ex-champ Arce," he said.

"While here is a semi-fitted step, please and consult doctors, by his boss' boxing training officer Fr. Fr. Bautista, who was involved was Fr. Senior years ago when he was just starting to be recognized here in his country, and Fr. Damien Mijares, who in turn had been involved can by boxing history."

"Mijares dedicated Arce by some serious decision, the numbers logical-ally to have of Filipino."

Strictly said Donaire should not like the top-seed of the 122-lb category and not like a beggar who's running after a damaged bit like Arce.

IN HUDDLE

Beth Cielo

"Donaire don't value he is—a has-been cannot-answer who's name-damaged greatly."

Based on the most recent ring surveys, the boxing researchers said Nonito should be angling for a fight with the winner of the Mares-Mexico Marner Asselcon Moreno match, or with Cotto or Guillermo Rigondeaux, "to fully establish himself."

In fairness to Nonito, I reasoned, he's most issued always names that he must "pass" before he can move up to a higher weight division. Two of the names were Mares and Rigondeaux. I don't recall the name of the third, it would have been Marquez.

By "pass," Nonito means that with have to fight the three—and beat them.

Also, it wasn't Nonito who sought out this fight with Arce. Nonito thinks there is no glory in a previous shot-boy like Arce to move that to Manila to pressure his Western money, that is true. Top Rank promoter Bob Arum's who had arranged this fight—his fourth this year.

• • •

Because that fight is so close to Nonito's last bout versus Nishioka and because his body injured knock-out can not expect to be fully healed in just eight weeks by Dec. 15, Donaire promoter Bob Arum has begun getting the IOA.

In a press conference in the US, Arum explained that his battle can start fight with Arce by mid-December because it is strategic for the purpose of the Bon-nito-Dio Donaire.

The recipient of the eventual award will be chosen by the Boxing Writers Association of America.

Donaire, who Arum has to decide on a sterling victory over Arce, stands still.

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Ducati PH peerless in bike finale

TEAM Ducati Philippines established a dominance of sorts by bagging 10 trophies in the Motorcycle Road Racing season finale recently in Clark International Speedway.

Team owner Teh Alberto and Manuguinbuan both were champ-contenders to lead the Ducati charge while John Mercado, Jhon Delfonso and Thit Mor topped big wins in their divisions to cement Ducati's domination in four-wheel racing.

Ducati also paved the way for the comeback of multi-titled champion Glenn Aguilar who showed no rust despite his long hiatus from racing.

Aguilar humbled the present crop of top guns in the Superbike Open to be led Manuguinbuan in a 1-2 finish.

DUCATI Philippines team members (from left) Charles Nakano, Marvin Manguinbuan, Ted Buan, John Delfonso, John Mercado, Armand Ayon, Dax Ayon, Glenn Aguilar and Ducati Philippines CEO Teh Alberto get together after winning 10 titles.

Alberto won the Overall Masters Class Champion for the 2012 National Superbike Race Championship and capped it same up finishes in the Masters Class and Overall Champion of the Ducati Cup in the final leg.

Manguinbuan triumphed in both the Superbike Novice and Intermediate Pilot class to clinch the crown of their set-up crown of both classes. Mercado ruled the Naked Class of the Ducati Cup and won 600 Class Championship.

John Delfonso captured the Ducati Cup Masters Class and Overall plaque for the day both over Ted Alberto and Charles Nakano. The latter claimed the Ducati Cup Superbike Novice crown.

"A lot of bikes can be made fast—or even set-up faster than a Ducati," said Alberto. "But Ducati rivals bikes were designed and built for fun."

Interested parties may visit Ducati PH at 102 P. Burgos St., Quezon City, or call 7250697 or 0917-5360837.

Podium finish for Cabrera

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD Mikee ROK karter Jasmine Sayan Cabrera clinched third place in the Cup Rotax-max category in the opening leg of the 2012 Prestige Lubricants and Mini-ROK Cup recently at CSIA International Speedway.

With entries more or less the same as the corresponding weekend, Cabrera podium's personal best time of 1:03.880 in the final after a strong showing in the qualifying.

Cabrera will again compete in the remaining rounds of the 3-leg series on 18 to 19 and 31 at Clarkmoor Race Track.

CABRERA

'Bakbakan' goes full blast

THE MPGB-featured Bakbakan 11-Hog Derby, a P47-million super cockfest, goes full blast this week.

The 7-day elimination will be held today at Sta. Ignacia Coliseum, Bulo Coliseum and Bulacan Coliseum.

There will also be elimination rounds on at SM del Carmen Bulacanan, Nino Cockpit (Rizal) and Los Pedros Coliseum (Laguna).

In Mindanao, derbies will be staged on Nov. 10 in the following venues: New Ormoc Coliseum, Gaisano Ayuan/Canaya Bogong Cockpit and Mabalo Coliseum. Eliminations on Ayuan Cockpit is on Nov. 9.

Sunday SPORTS

Editor Teddyboy S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa

CAGUIOA

HISTORIC TRIPLEHEADER

Skidding Kings face Mixers

By Musong R. Castillo

SIX YEARS in the PBA Philippine Cup is no big trouble right either then Barangay Ginebra San Miguel.

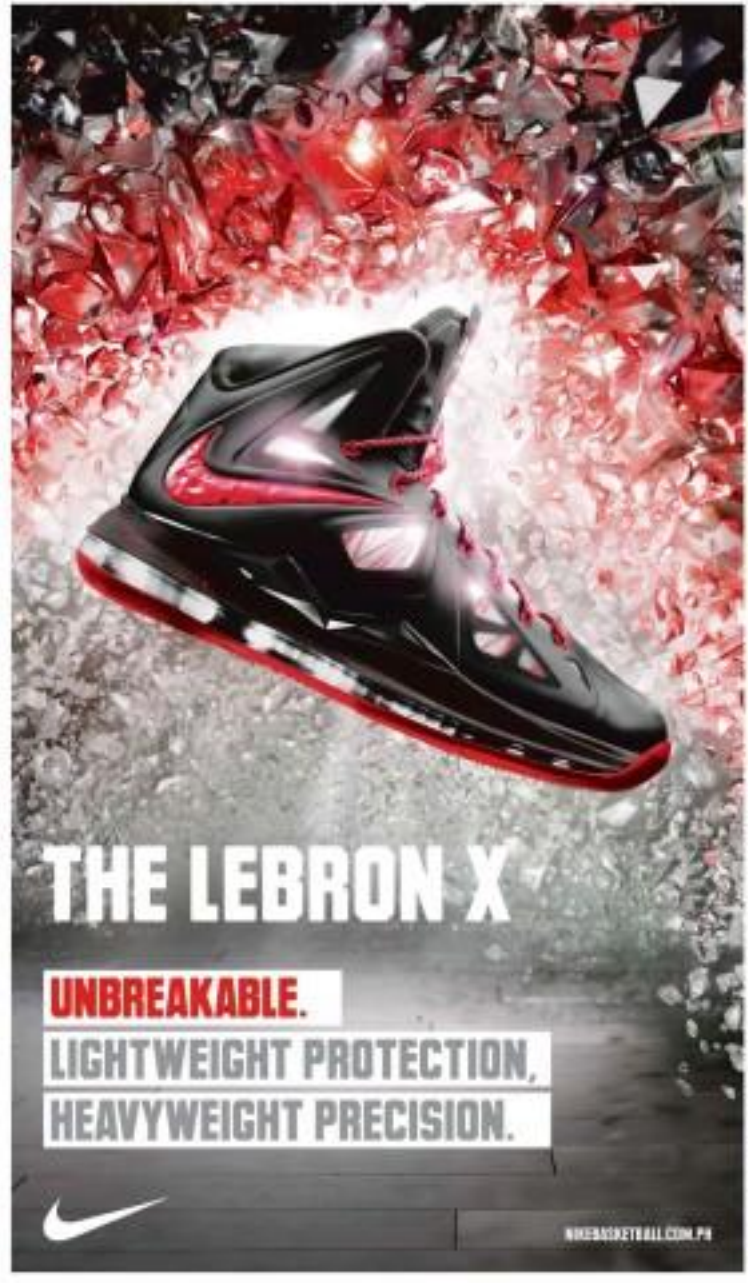
After adding superstar guard Lo Tenorio and two highly-regarded rookies in the offseason, the crowd-favorite Gin Kings are struggling unexpectedly and are two games from .500 near the halfway mark of their elimination round schedule.

And at 7:30 p.m. at Smart Araneta Coliseum today, the Kings would have to come with no less than their A game to unite to finally get back on track as they clash with rock-solid San Mig Coffee to open the league's first championship doubleheader.

Rain or Shine and Meralco look home in the 5:15 p.m. game with the winner gaining a share of second place over at Double Dragon and reigning MVP Mark Caguioa regaging in a verbal tussle after the game.

Nasty rumors have also been circulating about the ties of members of the coaching staff because of a 2-4 record—and a four-game losing streak which forced Calo to call for a crucial ball session last week to try to iron things out.

Caguioa remains the focal point of Ginebra, and rookies Justin Jurado and Chris Ellis are playing good parts in the rotation together with LA Tenorio.



Aguilar makes it to NBA D-League

By Jose Navarro

AGUILA Aguilar's determined bid to break the NBA took a pleasant turn when he got into the NBA Development League.

The 6-foot-10 Aguilar became the first Filipino to be drafted in the D-League, which serves as training ground of the world's top cage pros, after the former Ateneo Blue Eagle and Western Kentucky Hilltopper was picked in the seventh round by the Sioux City Warriors.

The 2009 PBA top overall pick went now-hood in the regular roster of the Sioux City Warriors, the D-League affiliate of the NBA's Golden State Warriors, before the league's opener on Nov. 23.

"Thank you Lord! God is in control of everything. I will work hard for the next two weeks," Aguilar posted on his Twitter account @Jayedinguilar25 after the Warriors took him as 190th overall.

The Warriors will open their season against the Reno Bighorns on Nov. 30 at the Reno Events Center in Nevada.

Aguilar played for Talk 'N' Text in the PBA and the Smart Gilas national team and hopes to get a call-up from an NBA squad. Last year, 69 D-League ballers were called up to the NBA.

Filipino-American Asroy Juliano, who was also hoping to join Aguilar, wasn't included in the list of eligible players for the 2012 NBA D-League Draft.

Loyola Meralco, Pachanga eye UFL q'final slots

By Cedrik F. Tejao

LOYOLA Meralco and Pachanga Diliman try to complete the United Football League Cup quarterfinal race tonight when they take on opposite rivals at University of Makati (Utek).

The Sparks, coming off a breakout performance against Nomads, battle winless Mendiola at 7 p.m., before second division champion Pachanga clashes with Laos in the final game of Group Cup 8.

With Nomads on top of the group with nine points, both Loyola and Pachanga, which have an identical mark from three matches, are left with no recourse but to win to advance to the last eight.

A draw for Loyola and Pachanga will allow Nomads to advance along with the Sparks.

'Digmaan' at Pasay Cockpit

The 10th Digmaan Pambansa G-Shop Derby gets going at Pasay City Cockpit tomorrow.

According to PCC pit manager Gov. Ben Rosa and Antonio Ebuen, the national derby-derby (2-day) Tomorrow it opens to all members of the Philippine Federation of Gamefowl Breeders.

Entry fee is P5,000 and minimum bet is P5,000. The second elimination derby-derby is on Nov. 10 with the final, which guarantees a prize pot of P10 million, is on Dec. 1.

For details, call 0927.896.8027/8 and 8150.720.

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MRT train catches fire; stampede hurts 2

ONE OF THE CONDUCTORS of the Metro Rail Transit caught fire on Saturday afternoon in Quezon City, causing a stampede that injured at least two passengers. City fire marshal Supt. Bobby Rimando said fire bridgades responded to reports of the fire that started from under Train No. 1074 as it made a stop on the southbound track of Ramon Magsaysay Boulevard in Cubao. The fire, which was declared out after 30 minutes, was due to a "short-circuit problem," Rimando said. Arsenio Perales, 27, and Jerome Hidalgo, 20, were treated for abrasions suffered in the crush of passengers rushing out of the train. **Julie Al Jacinto**

MMDA notes less 'Undas' garbage

Cleanup head cites impact of LGU ban on plastics

By Jayvee Sarod

IT'S STILL messy and stinky, but the numbers are encouraging.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority on Saturday noted a marked reduction in the volume of garbage collected from visitors' cemeteries in the capital after All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

An official heading the cleanup operations partly attributed this to recently passed local ordinances banning or limiting the use of plastic bags in business establishments.

Government assistance workers and volunteer groups once again fanned out for a massive cleanup following the annual observances honoring the dead on Nov. 1 and 2, heading to a total of 76 tracts of lands from 30 major cemeteries in just two days.

According to Francis Martinez, head of the MMDA's Metro Gateway Cleaning Group, the volume was much smaller than the trash collected following the "Undas" holiday last year.

A 2011 inquirer report showed that trash from Manila North Cemetery and South Cemetery alone already filled around 100 trucks right after All Souls' Day last year.

"Our cleanup is faster this year. I suppose people have learned their lesson. There was also a marked drop in the volume of plastics, with some local governments under LGUs implementing a no-use plastic bags," Martinez said in Filipino.

Martinez thanked the volunteer groups who helped collect recyclable items like plastic bottles from the cemeteries.

Still, Manila North remained the worst cemetery in terms of garbage generation, producing a total of 20 truckloads. It was followed by Manila South in Makati City which yielded 19 truckloads, and La Loma Cemetery in Quezon City which produced 11 truckloads, the MMDA said.

DRY AFTER Sweepers turn up at cemeteries to clean the mess left in the rainy... INFO LOVE

The other cemeteries covered by cleanup as of Saturday were the Manila Memorial Park in Marikina, Libis, Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina, Libis, Pinagsama Public Burial in Taguig, Antonio Rivera Cemetery in Valenzuela, and the Apostol Funeral Chapel in Pateros.

One environmental group, however, remained unimpressed.

EcoWaste Coalition coordinator Edwin Alejo said his group once again monitored the "widespread violation" of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act banning lit lanterns in cemeteries.

"From dawn to dusk, litterbugs were practically allowed to dirty their surroundings without any risk of being chastised, creating ugly sanitary disruptions in cemeteries. The 'Zombieasts' in cities as zombies and the honors, the Filipinos were the world among us should voluntarily admit their guilt, make amends for such offense and pledge not to litter again," Alejo said in a statement.

Meanwhile, another group, the Bantay Dan Che Foundation, deployed a total of 400 volunteers to collect recyclables in six major cemeteries in Metro Manila.

The 426 volunteers Elisa Bandoy organized a movement thanking cemetery visitors who cooperated with their #cemeterywise campaign.

"People were informed about the beauty of recycling and mentioned its importance. They would bring their garbage at the cemeteries in time," she said.

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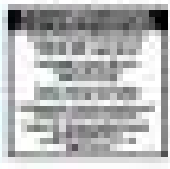

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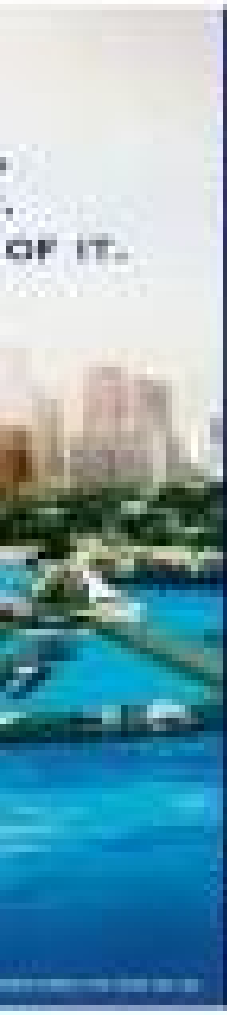
OF IT.

A LIFE OF ROYALTY
0917-8092222

Editor Lawrence B. Casco

The WORLD

Top UN rights official condemns China over suppression in Tibet

GENEVA—The top human rights official of the United Nations (UN) took China to task Friday over suppression of the rights of Tibetans, which she said had driven them to "desperate forms of protest," referring to some 60 self-immolations by Tibetans protesting Chinese rule that have been reported since March 2011, including seven since mid-October.

The official, Navi Pillay, the high commissioner for human rights, said in a statement that she was disturbed by reports of detentions, disappearances and the excessive use of force against peaceful demonstrators, as well as curbs on Tibetans' cultural rights. Pillay said "very rare concessions" had been exited were the alleged torture and ill-treatment of detainees and about the conditions of their trials.

Frustration with China gov't

Pillay said she had "several exchanges" with the Chinese government on the issue, and her very public criticism of Beijing's conduct on human rights appeared to reflect a measure of frustration.

"We tell the state but come to talk publicly about that," a spokesman for Pillay, Rupert Colville, said Friday in Geneva. Still, miscalculations are evidence of how serious the situation in Tibet has become, Colville said, and "we don't see any visible signs of progress."

"More needs to be done to protect human rights and prevent violations," Pillay said in the statement, urging China to release Tibetans who had been detained merely for exercising such fundamental rights as freedom of expression, association and religion. "Social stability in Tibet will never be achieved through heavy security measures and suppression of human rights," Pillay said.

Examples of suppression

As examples of that suppression, Pillay cited the case of a 17-year-old girl who was reported to have been severely beaten and sentenced to three years in prison for distributing fliers that called for freedom for Tibet and the return of the Dalai Lama. She said others had been sentenced to jail terms of between four and seven years for making essays, sending files or circulating outside China photographs of events in Tibet.

Pillay said she recognized the "intense sense of frustration and despair" that had driven Tibetans to such extreme actions but appealed to them to seek other ways of expressing their feelings and urged China to allow them to express their feelings "without fear of retribution." She said that China had pledged to step up cooperation with the UN on human rights, but said there were 12 outstanding requests to visit China by UN special investigators on various issues and called on China to facilitate access. —New York Times News Service

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BGC

FLOWERS FOR DEAD The vibrant colors of Benguet flowers adorn the city's back streets and parks when the city government allows flower traders to sell their wares during the All Saints' Day holiday in Baguio City.

BEN CHAN TALKS ABOUT BENCH'S SUCCESS

'We did things nobody dared to do'

BENITO Chan

By Margo C. Enriquez
Creek Rivera

"UHM! ... Whuppak! It should be ... whuppak!," exclaims the legendary screen villainess. A dolled-up Bella Flores explains how to slap the opponent in the show film "Kumadrakula 101 (Villainy 101)."

A production of Benchingcoffins and directed by Joey Reyes, "Kumadrakula 101" is a chunky discourse on the villain's unfamiliar curve, the scary and the mixed emotions that keep people scrabbling even if the villain is wearing sunglasses.

Flores' monologue unveils like a metaphor for Bench's mind-set amidst the competition. The film thrives on the many clues an 84-year-old acerera uses to a digitized medium. Although Flores is a stranger to the millennial generation, no one in Philippine cinema has taken after her. Likewise, Bench underscores, albeit exaggerativelly, that the brand gets stronger over time.

>> B2

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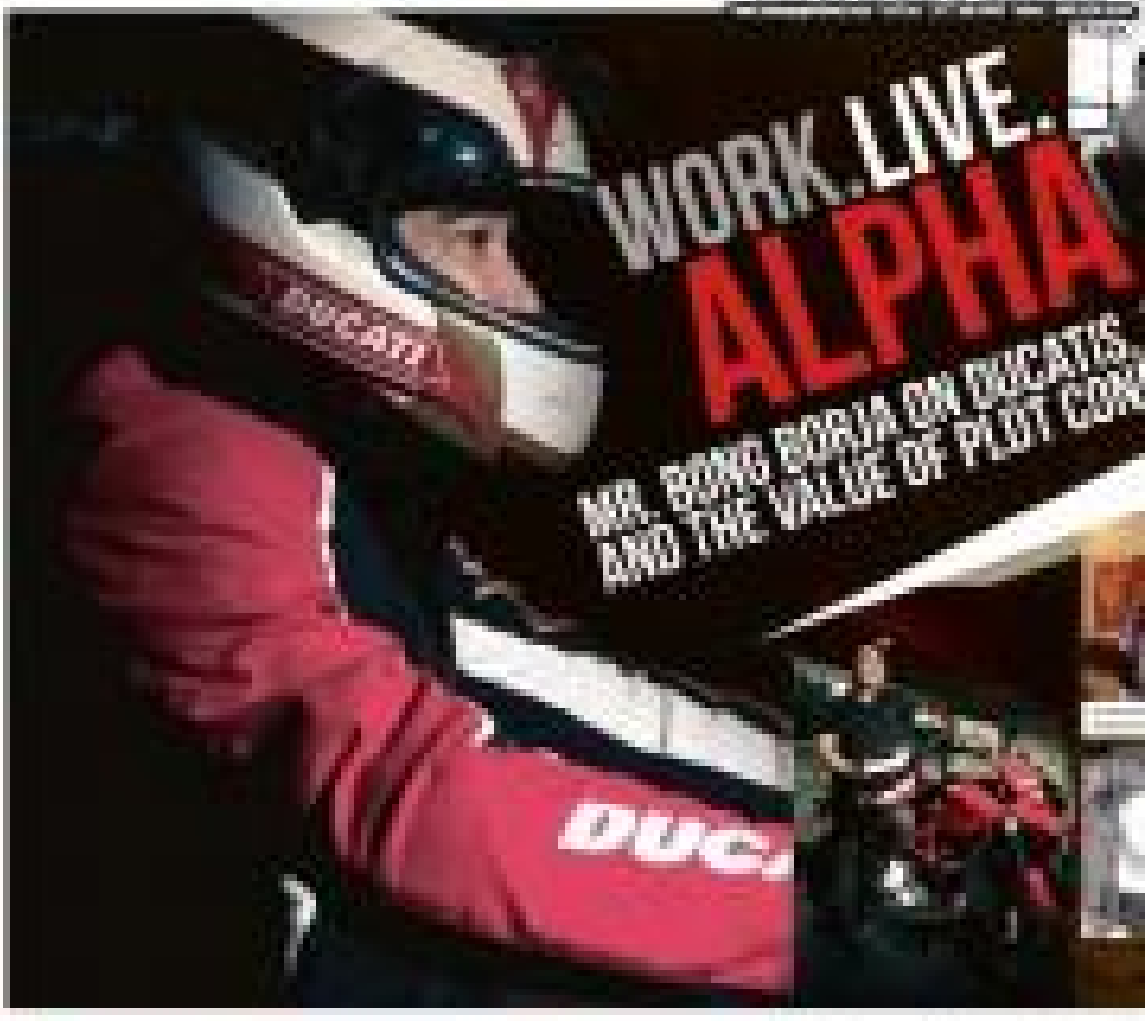
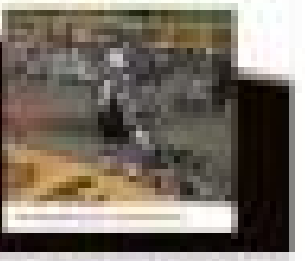
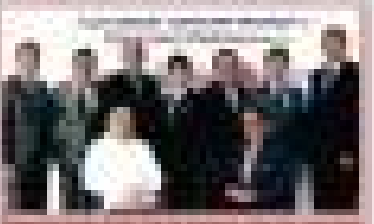


PLOT Cloud launched

PLOT named top regional provider at Asia Pacific Channel awards



PLDT and Century Properties seal partnership to provide advanced connectivity to master-planned developments



Sunday BIZ

Insecurity: Leadership flaw of America's worst president

EVERY few years, historians rank America's past Presidents from best to worst. While scholars disagree on the place of certain Presidents, they're united in their opinion that Warren G. Harding was one of the least-qualified ever to have occupied the White House. Despite holding office for less than three years, Harding left a legacy of scandal and corruption. What accounted for his dismal failure as a national leader? Insecurity.

Warren G. Harding was notoriously insecure, once privately remarking: "I am not fit for this office. I'd frustrated and should never have been here." Owing to his need for approval, Harding spent his energy making friends rather than making progress. On the campaign trail, Harding's likeability proved advantageous, as he was elected with over 60 percent of the popular vote—the highest percentage ever won by a candidate at that time. Yet in the Oval Office, Harding's preoccupation with popularity was debilitating. In his efforts not to let down any of his buddies, Harding ended up being perhaps the greatest Presidential disappointment in history.

How did Harding's insecurity undermine his leadership?

1) He showed favoritism.

Instead of selecting advisers on the basis of their competence, Harding surrounded himself with lacusing advisers it—but his personal need for affirmation. Putting his buddies in powerful governmental posts ensured Harding one bonehead after another.

His Secretary of the Interior, Albert Fall, was the first member of a Presidential cabinet to be imprisoned. Fall had accepted bribes from oil companies in exchange for leasing them government lands at below-market rates.

His Secretary of the Navy Edwin Denby had to step down in the wake of corruption charges.

His Attorney General, Harry Daugherty, was forced to resign after allegations of widespread corruption in the Department of Justice.

His Assistant Attorney General, Jess Smith, committed suicide after coming under investigation for fraud.

His Director of the Veterans' Bureau, Charles Forbes, was convicted and imprisoned of defrauding the government.

Though Harding apparently did not engage in fraud himself, the rampant corruption surrounding him caused his administration

to crumble. Future President Herbert Hoover, who worked for Harding, claimed that he never gave a presidency that he did not keep. President Harding was also profoundly unfit as a consoling with people, whether consoling in large groups or talking one-on-one.

However, in aiming to please people rather than to hold them accountable, Harding created a culture of suspicion. People were aware of misdealings throughout the administration, but they could not count on the President to deal with the corruption of his political allies. As long as an official was a friend of Harding's, that he had the power to do whatever he wanted. So when news of government corruption reached the public, the culture of suspicion spread of nationwide, with citizens becoming distrustful of their elected leaders.

President Harding's insecurity even seems to have influenced his wife, Florence. As First Lady, she kept a little red book in which she wrote the names of anyone who had offended her husband. Many of the names she inputted on account of imagined slights. Other perceived that someone had wronged the President or the wrong way or had failed to greet him properly, then she assumed they were a political enemy.

2) He avoided responsibility.

Instead of using his authority to confront his corrupt friends, Harding put himself in a victim of their behavior. In his words, "I have no trouble with my enemies. I can take care of my enemies in a fight. But my f*** friends, they're the ones who keep me walking the floor nights." In fact, some historians attribute Harding's death (he died of congestive heart failure while in office) to the stress of dealing with scandals instigated by members of his inner circle.

President Harding's evasion of responsibility would have come as no surprise to anyone observing his political career. As a Senator, Harding had been noted for his absenteeism. Whenever a controversial bill came up for a vote, he left Washington to avoid taking a side. Rather than making tough calls, Harding ran away from them. Later, as a candidate for President, Harding was counseled by party bosses on the agenda for his campaign. He simply parroted the policies they put in front of him. Rather than articulate a clear vision for the country's future, Harding parroted the visions of others.

3) He created a climate of suspicion.

President Harding was not unmotivated as a leader, nor was he completely without charisma. Future President Herbert Hoover, who worked for Harding, claimed that he never gave a presidency that he did not keep. President Harding was also profoundly adept at connecting with people, whether consoling in large groups or talking one-on-one.

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'We did things nobody dared to do'

Pretzengan B1

Going global

Indeed, if there is a local fashion brand that tells its story loudest, it has to be Bench. Since its inception in 1987, the brand has won awards in marketing, advertising and retailing. And the 25th anniversary activities that were marked with pomp, glamour and camp, Bench traveled with the Agora Awards for Export Marketing. The Philippine Retailers Association recognized its operations in 62 branches overseas.

"Its export now just jawdrops or one materials, but a brand. The Bench brand stands for an entire vision and the Filipino lifestyle, specifically. This is a marketing that, since it is one thing to sell it's a fashion medium, which is a completely different ball game overseas, alongside the world's biggest and best brands. The winning strategy is to think, act, and look global, wherever you are," explains Benito Chan, chair of Sayen Corporation, the mother company of Bench.

"My owner the foreign market by following a Filipino flavor to our designs but still making it adaptable globally. This has been one of our strengths which we will continue to build on in the future."

Strategies differ in various countries, naturally. In the Middle East, it targets the Filipino population although it has been attracting more non-Filipinos in its stores. On the other hand, Bench has become a direct competitor to major underwear brands in China since it entered the market 10 years ago.

Undoubtedly, Bench has created a credible mouth with the Hollywood and Korean audiences. It has forged a bond with customers and pumps up sales.

"To establish a true global brand, we are taking an excess a Bench family of endorsers from local celebrities to international ones. A Hollywood endorser brings in a different flavor to the brand, as would a Korean. When you put together the entire stable of Bench endorsers, who are all from different backgrounds, ages, nationalities, styles, body types, it really paints a picture of a brand that surrounds the world. It became the brand's image because Bench clothes look good on all of them. There is universal appeal."

Clearly, the tender ages of Adam Levine, Lucy Hale and Lee Min-ho and their fetish consumers are expected to resonate with kids who live in Jeans and t-shirts worldwide.

Trending

Aside from export marketing, Bench received an Agora award for Entrepreneurship in 2000 for building itself as a "maverick" brand. The media has guided over-and-the box strategies and its verve in pushing boundaries.

"We did things nobody dared to do, that is what the word 'entrepreneurship' connotes—making initiatives and taking risks," declares Chan.

"You have to know the right time to launch or sell it. Timing is the key, and that is the beauty of it, because you can never be complacent, and you are always learning no matter how experienced you are or how much you have already achieved."

One of Bench's biggest risks was pairing controversy to the underwear and making a private first very public. Its biannual underwear fashion show not only drove more sales but also catapulted the brand's image.

"Through the show, it is easier for us to market our brand in the international arena. Just recently, we launched our newest Bench Fashion Universe 2012 underwear show and made a special which will air in four World this December. This will definitely help in strengthening the brand equity in the Asian region," says Chan.

Unknown to the public, Bench has also been producing merchandise that has social relevance. To create awareness on the prevalence of child-sexual species in Cebuan sanctuary, Bench came out with a safari collection. Nine years ago, it supported the Lani Mercado campaign by printing Ninoy Aquino t-shirts, the proceeds of which went to charity.

It's Aquino partnered with Bench for the Pinoyboks collection to commemorate 25th anniversary of People Power. Part of the sales went to Aquino's charity for classroom building.

Bench has always been an early adopter even in green trends. Two years ago, it introduced the Green Wednesdays in which customers are encouraged to use their shopping bags. It's arguably the first local brand to use bamboo fiber in its line called Eco Libre for Eco-bamboo.

"We wish to raise awareness on bamboo fiber, since bamboo is a very sustainable resource. It is much more sustainable to grow and harvest than cotton, using less water and energy, and as a fabric it is softer, more durable and comfortable," says Chan.

To cater to the savvy multifaceted consumer, Bench has embraced ways of creating dialogue through social media. Chan is amazed at the quick reactions from Twitter.

"Customers tweet me and I can respond immediately. For example, we used to have picture-taking inside the store. Now, with Twitter, we encourage it. A customer can take a picture of anything they find interesting in our merchandise and then a few minutes later it is 'trending.' Or, they can Tweet me directly if they have comments or suggestions. This is very empowering for a consumer—the ability to directly communicate with the chairman of the company and to feel that they have been acknowledged. It is empowering for me too—because I can stay focused on the bigger picture without losing sight of the details that can make or break a customer's experience," says Chan.

Enduring family ties

Although Chan has been the front liner, he credits the success to the family which runs Sayen Corporation. His sister Benita, vice president of finance, keeps a sharp eye on the cash flow. Her husband, Virgilio Lim, Sayen president, is a math whiz and management savvy. The family dynamics is described as synergistic with constant check and balances.

"Benita and I know the ins and outs of business just from watching our parents run. Literary constantly...from instinct and learning by osmosis. The next generation is different. They sure have business degrees and are more scientific about it. Nicholo and Virgilio's eldest son Hayne, my nephew and godson, got his MBA from ADE and is chairing in the Business Development department of Sayen. He is in charge of our expansion, including brand acquisition. Their two daughters, Kristine and Sayen, are in charge of Brand Management. Each one got a degree in fashion merchandising, one from New York and the other from London. They interned at Bench to learn in terms of product quality and merchandising," he says.

Chan adds that the culture of family has extended to the employees, suppliers and endorsers. Some long-term relationships began with Chan's eye for spotting talent.

He discovered Richard Gutierrez's modeling potential at Bench's studio in 1997. It has been arguably the longest celebrity-brand alliance. Although films of Richard Gutierrez have a natural fit with Bench's market today, Gutierrez's enduring presence endured the company's values of loyalty, friendship and stability.

In the early '90s, Chan was impressed with the fashion look of designer Gino Singco during a fashion show at the Manila Polo Club. He then tapped her for Bench. "She was like a fixture at the affair that had a very unique and interesting way of dressing up. She gave that personal touch to the Bench," recalls Chan.

When the chief of a lingering illness, Chan acknowledged that she was a tough act to follow.

As of this writing, Gino is traveling through Israel and Jordan. Living on a suitcase, he travels five months in a year.

"I am still discovering and learning things," he says.

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Power Situation Outlook
for Sunday, 4 November 2012

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	1,130	681	-188

TWG Tea scented candles, White Earl Grey and Oud Night Tea

Sunday LIFESTYLE
Editor Thelma Bonoan-Tan Jose

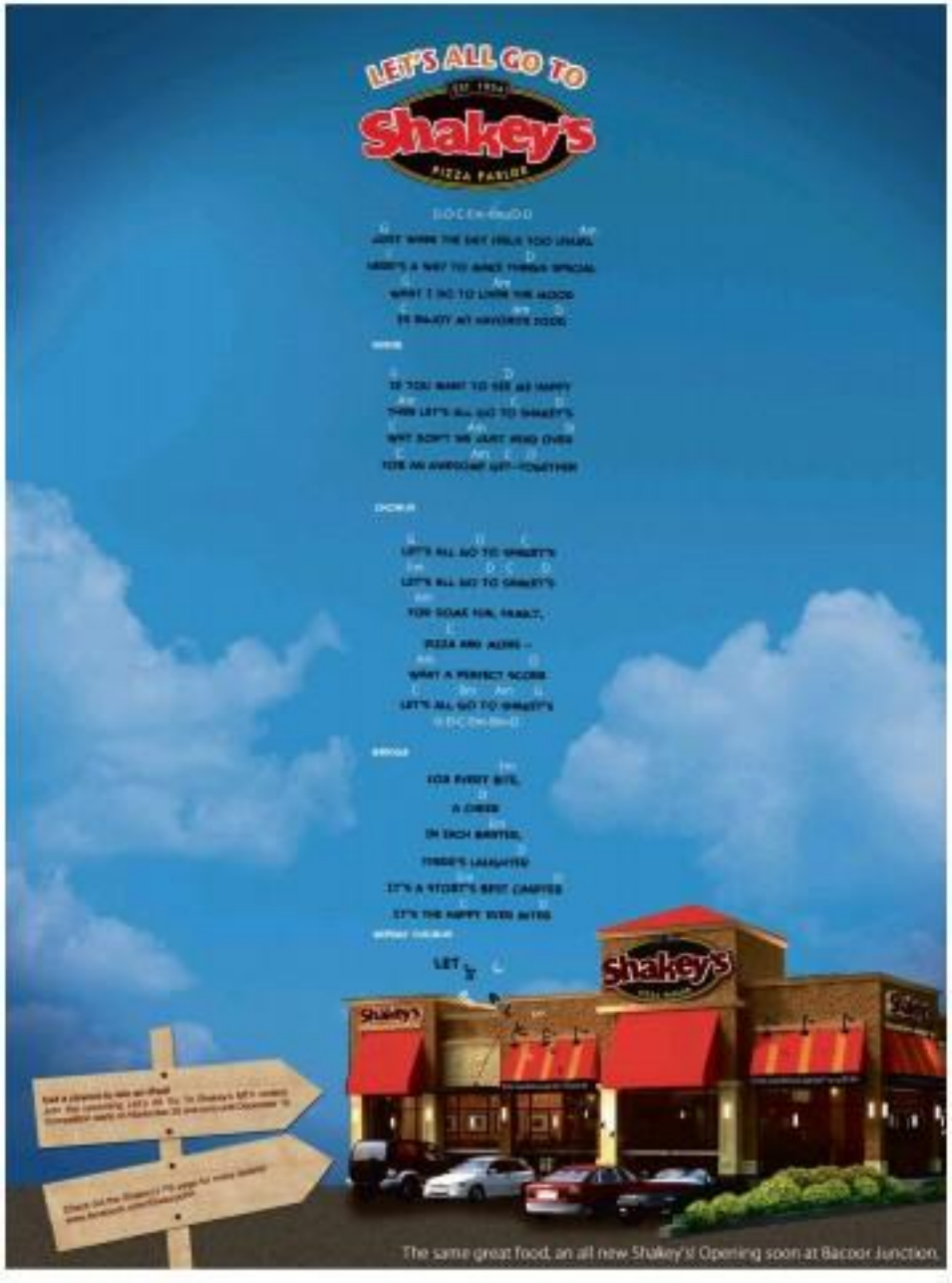
The world's finest luxury tea brand, soon in Manila

It is only right that TWG Tea has its roots in Asia—specifically Singapore, once a trading post for teas

By Erica Paredes, Contributor

COFFEE has had to start sharing its popularity with the tea culture, which has been growing in the country these last few years. With more and

NEWSBREAK P2



The world's finest luxury tea brand, soon in Manila

Pretzeage C1

more places offering afternoon tea sets and buffets, and from the sheer number of milk tea places mushrooming all over the metro, it's safe to say Filipinos are crazy about this drink.

Afternoon tea has long been associated with British culture, but tea-drinking actually started closer to home—in China, some 4,000 years ago before it made its way to Europe and North America.

It is only right, then, that TWG Tea, the finest luxury tea brand in the world, has its roots in Asia, specifically Singapore, which was once a trading port for tea.

TWG stands for The Wellness Group, and the company prides itself in having the largest collection of tea in the world, with every tea harvesting season represented in the menu, as well as unique tea blends that are handcrafted in-house.

TWG Tea Garden at Marina Bay Sands

Tea 101

We were in for a fun tea days in Singapore, hopping from one TWG tea salon to the next, with the husband-and-wife team-and owners Taha Almajdli and Miranda Barnes, president and director of business development and communications, respectively, of TWG.

The couple explained that, like good wine, fine teas come from a single estate, meaning, the blend of teas leaves all comes from only one plantation. TWG offers over 1,000 varieties from all over the world.

During our media visit to the gardens, we were given a crash course on the different types of tea available at their retail stores and cafés. We were taught that teas are usually graded by what "buds" they were part of, with the first buds being the best of the lot.

The first flush happens in spring, the second in the summer, the third during the monsoon, the fourth during the fall and the fifth in winter. The later the flush, the lower the quality of tea leaves. Also, the different types of tea, from white to black, all come from the same leaves; it's the process they undergo that differentiates them from each other.

Processing

The beginning of tea processing starts with gathering leaves according to grade. Imperial and Vine are highest-quality teas; standard refers to average tea blends with a higher amount of broken tea leaves, resulting in more bitterness.

Withering comes next, as the process that removes most of the water content from the leaves so it's easier to twist and roll without any damage. The third step is rolling, which releases oils that, in turn, facilitate the tea, followed by sifting to separate whole and broken leaves.

TAHA Boujdli, president of TWG Tea

Miranda Barnes, director for business and communications

and red tea from South Africa. We were also able to try tea infused sweets, where hot-selling teas were used to make chocolates, refreshing ice cream and macarons.

TWG even sells tea-scented candles for those who want their homes to smell like their famous blends.

Two Manila salons

TWG Tea will be opening two salons in Manila before the end of the year. Aside from its wide selection of teas, the salons will also serve food in complement the drinks.

We had lunch in the Marina Bay Sands café and I ate foie gras salad and beef with Silver Needle sauce, which I enjoyed a lot. The Manila menu will be similar to Singapore's, but will also include a bit of local flavor.

The tea-infused macarons, ice cream and chocolate will likewise be available, as well as fresh loose-leaf tea blends sold in attractive, gift-worthy tea cans and handmade tea bags made out of cotton.

The passion that Miranda and Taha have for their product is apparent, and in early November, Manila will be able to experience the world's finest luxury tea brand in its premier branch in Greenbelt 3, and soon after in Newport Mall at Resorts World.

My husband is a text maniac

Unless your husband is glued to his cell phone, why not allow him this playtime alone?

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Mateo

DEAR EMILY,

I have been married almost 30 years. Like in most marriages, my husband and I have settled down a lot of drama. I like to think that this made our bond strong. My problem with my husband started about five years ago after I saw in his cell phone several inappropriate text exchanges. He does not see anything wrong with having these women in his "text buddies," since infidelity does not apply here.

Either he is pretty smart not to go to bed with them, or I simply have no proof that he does. This has hurt my so much and our relationship is suffering. My husband insists he has done nothing wrong other than be insensitive. There must be a word to describe this kind of infidelity. I know it isn't right and I can't understand how these women—some of whom are married—can send these messages. Is it all a game which I should learn to play?

TEXT BUDDY

Yes, it's a game you should learn to play, but not in the way of sit on his lap. Unless your husband is glued to his cell phone and looks past you 24/7, why not allow him this playtime alone? Crash your jealous tongue when he starts going on with those text mates and acting like a mirror on the prowl.

When do you text the last woman? Do you text with together just for fun? Discuss and say sure out-of-the-way restaurants recently? Ever shared jokes you heard on TV or read somewhere? Take it upon yourself to find some interesting ways to divert his mind so you can get that mobile phone off his hands.

Thirty years can make a marriage a prison, especially if you are not doing any worthwhile projects or hobbies together. Your bromance do not preserve the life-long loyalty that you prize or expect from your partners (that they even have to court every time they have sex), take the extra effort to hold his interest in you. And just because you're jealous of his sex mates doesn't mean you are validly married with him. You probably are just an interest in the relationship. You are being pickled by his insensitivity and these sex mates this time, and you don't know what to make of it.

Believe that nothing will happen unless you push him to the edge. Men are such hunting, they treasure that many of things they play this insensitive game in the confines of their sexy-ass remarkable chairs—and not.

E-mail emateo@inquirer.com.ph or emateo@hotmail.com. Listen to my radio program "Kaffeinate Highdose" Monday-Friday, 3 p.m.-4 p.m., on DWIQ, 1242kHz, or my podcast at http://kaffeinatehighdose.blogspot.com/

Remembering another canonization; Malate fiesta Mass on Nov. 18

COMING BACK from the canonization of Bruno Hollez Cafungcal on St. Peter's Square in Rome, I recall my first canonization on Oct. 6, 2002, when Blessed Josemaria Escriva, founder of Opus Dei, was raised to sainthood. That was 10 years ago. It was so awesome as the canonization of Cafungcal last Oct. 21 when 3,000 pilgrims from the Visayas came to give honor to one of their own.

Canonizations

Pope John Paul II led the concelebrated Mass with 42 other members of the clergy, such as Cardinal José Saraiva Martins, prefect of the Congregation for the Cause of the Saints; Cardinal Antonio María Rouco Varela, archbishop of Madrid (the diocese where the new saint had lived until he moved to Rome, and where Opus Dei was founded in 1928); and Cardinals Ivan Dias, Pujol, Molenaar and Herranz. Also present were Bishop Dávila of Bathurst, native city of San Josemaría, and Msgr. Javier Echevarría, prelate of Opus Dei.

Young people

The presence of the youth in Saint Peter's Square was notable. The organizers estimated there were over 80,000 young people: 2,000 were volunteers, 140 of whom came from the Philippines.

I remember being accompanied by two young students from the University of the Philippines to the Opus Dei Prin Center where representative Quezon Blessed Josemaría, who walked four blocks to the Via della Conciliazione where other journalists gathered to send their stories, as I did to the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Inside the newsroom, journalists excitedly wrote their reports. The new saint taught that it was possible "to be holy in the middle of the world," and he proved this with his life. At the time of his death, there were at least 60,000 Full Bridged members of Opus Dei.

Thanksgiving

There were many people at the canonization who had come to "thank" the new saint for his intercession.

Mabby Sangalang (Philippines), for example, recovered from a serious ear infection. Gabriela Hernández Fumero (New York), who was five years old, was miraculously cured of an allergic reaction in a vaccination. Kelsey Shark, from Peru, was cured of leukemia caused by spinal problems that had developed after an accident.

Noel Macaraeg was a young Filipino suffering from leukemia. He was the youngest of 10 children and a devotee of Blessed Escriva. His brother had sent a request to the Make a Wish Foundation in the United States, an institution that granted wishes to children who were terminally ill. Noel's wish was to be able to come to the canonization with his family. After praying to Josemaría Escriva, his wish was fulfilled, and the Fumeiro

Mass sponsored the trip with his sisters and mother.

Holy Communion

Due to the presence of at least 750,000 people, 1,000 priests distributed Holy Communion in Saint Peter's Square, in the Square of Pius XII and in Via della Conciliazione.

Malate fiesta

Archbishop Luis Antonio Tagle will celebrate Mass on Nov. 18, 9 a.m. in Malate Church to honor its patroness, Our Lady of Remedios.

Auxiliary Bishop Bernardino Cortez will officiate the Concelebrated Mass at 9 a.m. Reverse Mission on Nov. 9-17, 8 a.m., Theme: "Global na Debosyon ng Remedios, Ina ng Sining Malate."

Thanksgiving at La Mesa Eco Park was held yesterday. On Nov. 8, 7 p.m., a family concert will take place at Palacio de Maynila featuring the Spirit of '87 Band.

Marian concert takes place on Nov. 16, 7 p.m. at Malate Church. Performers: Our Lady of Remedios Choir, St. Paul University Manila Chorale Group, Malate Catholic School Elementary Glee Club, Malate Catholic School High School Glee Club, and University of the Philippines Manila Chorale.

Our Lady of Bigbig Ave.

Updated schedule of Triduum of Masses of Our Lady of Fighting Area at Lay Formation Center of San Carlos Seminary in Guadalupe, Edsa: Nov. 8, 4:30 p.m. Rosary and 5 p.m. Mass; Nov. 10, 4:30 p.m. Rosary and 5 p.m. Mass; and Nov. 11, 3:00 p.m. Rosary and 4 p.m. Mass.

OPUS DEI celebrates the 10th anniversary of St. Josemaría Escriva's canonization on Oct. 6, 2002, in Rome.

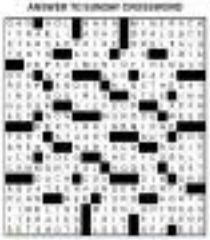
Five ways to boost your kindness quotient

CAN YOU FEEL the happy in the soupy? Life has taught me that you can for as long as I drew from the three Gs—God's grace, gratitude and giving. God's grace, author Anne Lamott likes to say, starts at where we are and does not leave us where it found us. Essentially, I must say, His grace saves kids, as answer lives shines and for as long as it takes.

Gratitude and giving go hand in hand. No matter your state in life, you will always have something to give. And no matter how down in the dumps you might be feeling, next to God's grace, it is in the giving where you find your salvation.

Dr. Stephen G. Post, professor of preventive medicine and founding director of the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD



ROOTS AND WINGS

Cathy Babao-Gabaldón

and Bioethics at Stonybrook University wrote in his book "The Gifts of Helping" that helping isn't just linked to a healthier life but to a longer one by citing a 2000 analysis of a survey of over 7,000 older adults, conducted by researchers at Stanford University, where it was found that frequent volunteering was directly related to longevity.

Beauty of giving

"The generous behavior demonstrated by this research, and that we witness in everyday life, often is not what we would call heroic. But that's the beauty of giving. It doesn't have to be on a grand scale. Regardless of our condition, we can still give—whether it's a random stranger and, a big to a crying child, or a needy commuter we pass on the street—and it will still be meaningful. The result: you know your gift benefit your best, but you can from your own heart always to reach out with love," Post says.

He describes several easy and convenient ways we can expand what I'd like to call our giving quotient. One of the easiest ways is to keep a journal about the large and small ways you are giving right now. It's not really a matter of keeping track but rather privately enjoying the light that comes from helping. And helping does not have to be in big ways. "You may be surprised to find that a friendly smile, a question about how things are going, or an offer to pick up groceries helped someone through a rough patch," he explains. Knowing that you have made a dent or a difference in someone's day will motivate you to help even more.

Host. Post advocates that we make it a practice to help our person every day. "This is so easy and gratifying exercise that, with very little practice, can become a natural part of your daily routine. Whether you help by holding the elevator, dropping a dollar into a homeless person's hand, or pitching in to help with a loved one's chore, notice how that makes you feel."

No cost

Begin with one kind act each day in your objective, and notice how you feel. Do it consistently and after a few weeks, it will become a part of your daily routine, and then write down how making that change has made a difference in your own life.

Giving does not have to cost you anything. You can draw from your own skills and talents. If you bake well, use that to bring joy to others. If you write well, use the gift to help uplift others. If your skill is to organizing and fundraising, that is a valuable skill that can be put to good use by many nonprofit service.

Post says, "Research shows that we benefit most when we help others by drawing on our natural gifts. People find it easier to consistently help others when they see doing things they believe they are good at. So think about your own skills, what you most enjoy doing, as long as you're passionate about it, that's other counts. Pondering on the way that best suits you helps keep you on track."

A God's suggestions is to think about the many ways others have given to us right now and in the past.

For me, although I have now learned to be careful that she will draw out my best of emotional giving and support, I always try to remember the comfort that was provided to me during the darkest days of my life, when I encountered my deepest losses: 2 Corinthians 1:4 always comes to mind.

We comfort us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us." Beloved is a reality, and sufficient to take it away, but always, there is a God who enables us to give because He continues to give to us endlessly and unconditionally.

Gratitude, whether in prayer, through a letter, an SMS or an e-mail is a surefire way to enter the giving and joy quotient. According to Post, a research by psychologist Christopher Peterson has found that writing gratitude letters and delivering them in person, made people feel significantly happier for a month. In the digital age, a heartfelt e-mail, or a two minutes on Skype precedes before the offender when delivering the letter physically is not possible.

Comfort and support

On a recent trip to Guam, my former classmate Mr. Mikong Gatbi, who is with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, and I talked about the good you grass we had recently set up to provide comfort and peer support to children who had lost loved ones. The program the had to Guam were called Rainbows for God's Children. We discussed the possibilities of collaborating and working together in the near future. As our conversation for left, we stopped at our tracks because before us stood the biggest and brightest rainbow either one of us had ever seen.

We both smiled and she said, "What better affirmation of the work that we do and the plans that lie ahead." God speaks in the silence of our hearts but sometimes He messages come across in bright and beautiful colors like it did that afternoon.

Follow the author on Twitter @cathybabao and www.mercyhearts.wordpress.com

Search for Master Recipes at SM Hypermarket

Searching for the Master Recipe at SM Hypermarket Alabang

Everybody loves food regardless of its sweet, salty, spicy, or a combo of two or three. Food is not anymore just a necessity to survive but something that can pleasure, console, and excite. People have outgrown eating to live; they now live to eat. Enough some may not admit it, no one can resist a perfectly prepared dish with an explosion of tastes and juicy sauces. From is the adage is anyone's heart you longer just mend. The preparation of food has indeed become an art and the chef is the artist. The perfection behind the preparation of meals is insane. A great chef doesn't just mix ingredients together, the chef combines and matches different tastes, textures, and processes to attain food perfection and be hailed as a Master Chef.

SM Hypermarket and Food Giants Connive

Master Chefs 2012 is a four month long celebration of good food organized by SM Hypermarket along with its associate company Unilever Food Solutions, Monde Foods, and CDO. It consists of three parts: the **Cooking Marathon**, the **Master Recipe Contest**, and the **Carinderia Makeover**. The delicious event aims to show the shoppers that the everyday food items that they buy from SM Hypermarket have ingredients that remain unexplored at home. And with the help of renowned chefs and soon to be Master Chefs, the dedicated duos will go beyond their basic uses and will be known as ingredients of extraordinaire but affordable meals.

Are you a Master Chef?

Can you embark any food item's potential and make a delicious and mouthwatering meal? If so, then head on down to the nearest SM Hypermarket and join Master Chefs 2012! Master Recipe Contest. Just present 500 pesos worth of either single or accumulation receipts of groceries purchased with an SM Advantage Card. The items must include at least 2 products from Unilever.

The Master Chef must be able to use at least one item and appliance from as the main ingredient and show off what it can do. Show up on the scheduled dates with the recipe in one hand and the recipe and the delicious dish on the other. And with a cup of taste, an ounce of creativity, a spoonful of presentation, and a pinch of roasting, you just might become one of the 30 winning Master Chefs who will receive 10,000 pesos worth of Gift Gift Certificates each.

So, if you are a foodie who has a recipe that is sure to conquer the food world, dance it for everyone to enjoy and you just might become the next Master Chef.

Schedules

Judging date Nov. 4

SM Hypermarket	Required Master Brand
Mall of Asia	Knorr Ready Chicken 1kg
Fairview	Beverly Fresh Premium Chicken
Taytay	CDO Liver Burger
Valenzuela	Magic Sarap Bonus

Judging date Nov. 5

SM Hypermarket	Required Master Brand
North Edsa	Knorr Ready Chicken 1kg
Fairview	Beverly Fresh Premium Chicken
Taytay	CDO Liver Burger
Valenzuela	Magic Sarap Bonus
Sta. Rosa	Magnolia Chicken Nuggets

EXTENDED
November 16, 2012
Last day of submission of entries!

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Gida de la Cruz and her GenSan

'GenSan is very well-planned. The roads are wide, the streets clean. There are many churches and good schools, and the beaches are only a few minutes away. Food is superb and relatively cheap. It's a perfect place for me and my family'

Gida de la Cruz at the My City, My SM launch at SM City General Santos with SM vice president for marketing Millie Dizon and SM City GenSan assistant mall manager, engineer Herman L. Hernandez

GIDA OFONG-de la Cruz is president and founder of the T'boli Cultural Heritage Foundation, and also a businesswoman and community development maven in General Santos City. Her T'boli name, which means "man-ice," was "given to me before I was born" by her tribe, according to tribal tradition.

She was born in scenic Lake Sebu in South Cotabato to T'boli royalty: The T'boli culture is richly connected and inspired by nature, and members of the tribe still live in a traditional way. The T'boli distinguish themselves from other tribal groups by their colorful clothes, bracelets and earrings. They are famous for their dream-inspired and spirit-infused T'nalak woven fabrics, exquisite beadwork, and beautiful brass ornaments.

Ahead of her time

A woman ahead of her time, Gida studied in a university in nearby GenSan, fell in love with the place, and has lived in the city ever since. She married GenSan native Engenbher de la Cruz, and has had six children, including triplet girls Ina, Iya and Isha.

"I cannot count the ways GenSan has influenced the person that I am," says Gida. "It is in this city that I became aware of and developed my talents and skills. And definitely, I want to give back."

She was executive director of the General Santos City Chamber of Commerce and Industry from 1996-2000, where she helped draft, plan, organize, and execute major conferences, activities, programs and policies. During her term, the Chamber won three Most Outstanding Regional Chamber awards, five Most Outstanding Chamber in Mindanao Awards and numerous local awards.

"It's incredible how GenSan has grown from the seemingly backwater city in the early 1980s to the thriving industrial and economic hub it is today," she says. "I think the secret of this place is the pioneering spirit of

'In the T'boli tradition, our heirloom clothes are passed down to the eldest daughter'

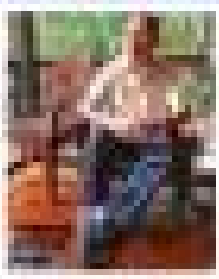
Gida de la Cruz, the eldest daughter, wears her family's exquisite finery—the royal tarakhil (a decorated with number of pearl and a solid color of 12 in contrary origin. The skirt is called tudoyong. The bibs chain-mail belt is made of brass and is about 40 years old. The intricate darong necklace is made of beads and gold.

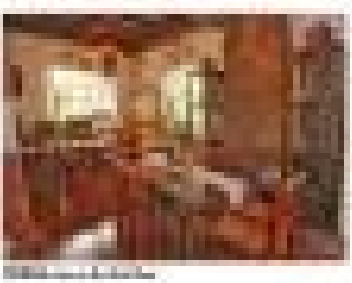
Ocean-inspired mall design for SM General Santos City

By [redacted]

GenSan's one ancestral house—and what a house is a

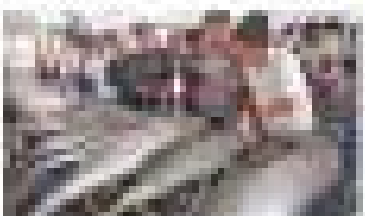
By [redacted]



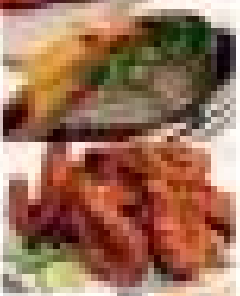


Where one can get GenSan's famous cuna—fresh and at half the market price

By [redacted]



Steak, 'pato tim,' tuna 'panga,' 'alamid' coffee, 'durian' sweets –GenSan's foodie hotspots



Gida de la Cruz and her GenSan

'If I would bring guests around GenSan, I would take them on a short trip to beautiful Lake Sebu. It is where my roots are, and I love the 'tilapia' there.'

LOCATED in the southernmost part of the province of South Cotabato, Lake Sebu is recognized by Unesco as a cultural landscape in Mindanao, a distinctive geographical area that showcases a holistic relationship between the world of man, culture and nature. With its majestic seven islands, dense lakes and serene breathtaking beautiful waterfalls, as well as its cool climate, the Lake Sebu area is renowned as the 'premier Capital of Southern Philippines. The lake's diverse and extraordinary existence are home to the indigenous T'boli, Tiruray, Ubo and Manobo tribes.

'As a full-blooded T'boli, I am most interested in a variety of issues affecting not only us, but the world of culture and arts. The promotion of Filipino arts and culture is close to my heart.'

AS FOUNDER and president of the T'boli Cultural Heritage Development Foundation, Gida is committed to creating socioeconomic and cultural programs for the T'boli communities in Lake Sebu. One of her "impossible dreams" is to put up a memorabilia for tribe "to let our future generations to see our rare heritage."

'I would also bring visitors to the Dole plantation'

WITH MAJESTIC Mt. Matutum in the background, the Dole Plantation in nearby Polomolok, Gen'S Cotabato is the largest industrial firm involved in the growing, processing, and exporting of fresh and canned pineapple in the area. The pineapple plantation is a scenic destination with its fresh fruit, pineapple and souvenir items.

From page D1

this people. It was initially local people who were business-minded, or had industries, as well as all from other countries, that triggered GenSan's economic growth."

Gida is also president of Isang Pundo International, a fair trade organization and export to all kinds of food products, from canned tuna to tuna-dried to tuna.

Cultural roots

Despite her exposure to a business and development, Gida remains close to her cultural roots as founder and chair of the T'boli Cultural Heritage Development Foundation, Inc., which formulates and manages socioeconomic and cultural programs for the T'boli communities in Lake Sebu.

She is also founder and president of Gida's T'nalak International, which designs, manufactures and markets handwoven clothes both domestic and foreign national buyers. Gida works closely with the NAM Foundation in Manila, the Philippine Museum Foundation, Asian Textiles and the Center for Empowerment Works Fair Trade Organization in the US to further develop her tribe's exquisite craft.

"I am passionate, perhaps even obsessed with this project," she says. She hopes to further develop T'nalak into high-end fashion accessories and home furnishings.

"But I'm not in it as weaving, being more of art," she says. "But those who go mainstream and become a staple for the ever-changing fashion community. It may be positioned into a fabric entirely in its own category."

Here, Gida takes us around her GenSan, her GM.

'Seafood is a must here in GenSan. It is, after all, the tuna capital of the Philippines and one must try all types of tuna. My favorite is my husband's 'kinilaw'.'

'It is great that SM is now in GenSan. To me, it is a powerful indicator of GenSan's potential for growth.'

"GOMBINOW the arrival of SM has made the city more engaged, more interesting. It's become more upbeat, energetic, and looking forward to something nice and new everyday." The opening of SM City GenSan has brought more shopping, leisure and entertainment excitement in GenSan.

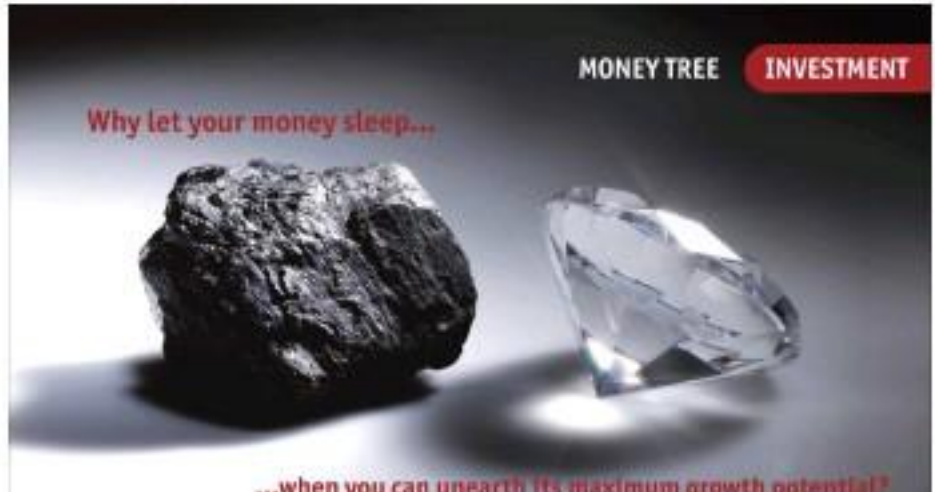
'I like the architecture of the SM mall in GenSan — the layout and the placement of shops are strategic, and the mall has a well-planned, uncluttered look. It is inviting without being overpowering, and has a laid-back, refreshing feel to it. Everything about it is spacious, airy and fun altogether.'

Gida de la Cruz and her family — husband Dhino, with son Kevin, and triplet daughters Lisa, Aya, and Mia at two of their favorite places at SM City GenSan — Cafe Amore and the mini-cooler fountain.

'I feel very strongly about the promotion of 'T'nalak' as a living artwork. It is a historical fabric we Filipinos can truly claim our own. I am heavily into 'T'nalak' design, product and marketing as a tool to help my tribe.'

T'NALAK, a deep brown abaca-based cloth handwoven with intricate designs, a product of the women of Mindanao's T'boli tribe. These diamond-inspired and spiderweb-inspired fabrics are among the most beautiful cultural products of the Philippines. The T'boli women are known as dreamweavers, legend has it that this form of weaving was taught by the goddess Fu Dalu in a dream. These unique patterns are made with meticulous abstraction and passed down from generation to generation.

TUNA specialties from GenSan include chilled sashimi, tuna sisig and tuna kinilaw.



Sunday LIFESTYLE

DR. MILDRED V. Vitangcol, president and CEO of Sta. Peter Life Plan Inc.; QTA Miss 2012 Ms. Zaria Palomar-Ong; escort Martin Q. Llamas; Gov. David Jay-Jay C. Suarez

It's the ball season —and I'm having a ball

WE ARE in the midst of ball season. The ladies of Quezon (Tayabas) Academy just held "Coin de Vivre," their 50th Anniversary Ball at the Grand Ballroom of Sofitel Philippine Plaza.

I had the good fortune to snatch scarcely booked and stuffed gowns with the QTA ladies, thanks to the invite of good friend Nieves Veloz, who shares my passion for extravagant soirées and colorful celebrations. Nieves was actively involved in the preparations for "Coin de Vivre," including the program that featured cultural dances and the coronation of QTA Miss 2012 Maria Zenia Palomar Ong. Mrs Veloz escorted by Martin Lamberto Llamas, and her grandson—hands down—the most stalwart of the evening.

Welcoming guests at the Grand Ballroom entrance were Normando Quirico Llamas and Maria Teresa Palomar Ong, presidents of QTA. It was altogether a night of beautiful ball gowns.

Opulence, sophistication

In contrast, that same week I was at the Fall/Winter 2012 Collection of world-class fashion designer Tadashi Shoji, which featured soft, figure-hugging silhouettes. Held at the Rigodon Ballroom of Manila Peninsula, the Shoji collection harks back to the golden age of Shanghai, where the opulence, refinement and sophistication of Old Shanghai are retold through fabrics, prints and designs.

Tadashi's collection evokes fabled Shanghai

TESSA!
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

The Shoji show was produced by scholar extraordinaire Bustos's, in cooperation with BCBC Bankard and Tony Bowen, with the support of Absolut Elyx and Smart Infinity and for the benefit of Philippine Red Cross.

Tadashi Shoji is originally from Hiroshai, Japan, and is now based in LA. He is passionate about pursuing, drawing and creating contemporary pieces. With his strong passion for contemporary art, he sought out a place, a niche where he would fully express his creativity. Thus, he captured the exciting realm of fashion design, establishing the brand Tadashi Shoji in 1982.

Today the Tadashi Shoji Signature Collection is all about luxury and elegance. It includes fashion Dressing, Luxury Sweaters, Knit Separates and Tyrst Basics. Tadashi Shoji has proven that his life-long passion and dedication to one's craft is the key to success.

At the show, Tadashi and I had the opportunity to conduct a live auction of his fantastic fabulous pieces. The show beautiful gowns were a foil-printed, mesh jersey gown with

(TO THE BALL !!)

TWIGGY'S signature pixie cropis revealed with a cool blonde hair color and shadow root placement for a modern edge.

L'Oréal Professionnel brings the latest hair trends to the LOOK of Style Awards

MOST women doesn't dream of being in the spotlight and shining like a movie star?

L'Oréal Professionnel's Steam Neocreator/Hi Whisker Color Collection recreates vintage Hollywood glamour with a modern twist by using the same shadow illusion technique through a palette of cool blondes, copper and violets. On Nov. 6, renowned local hairdressers unveil their interpretations of looks made famous by iconic women Brigitte Bardot, Liz Taylor and Twiggy using the latest innovations in hair color—revisiting the past while keeping an eye on the future.

Taking cue from international designers like Jil Sander, Stella McCartney, Alber Elbaz of Lanvin and Miuccia Prada who were inspired by '50s and '60s fashion, the premier beauty brand will showcase the latest hair trends that are taking over the runways of Paris.

The collection will also be featured in the evening at the LOOK of Style Awards event through a collaboration with pare Emilio Mesh Tarazon, Stefhe Aires and Niño Regalado.

The event is to be staged by LOOK Magazine, Inquirer Lifestyle and the Inside Crowd.

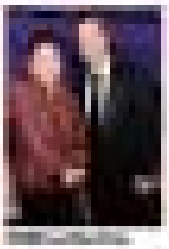
The annual search for the next generation of Filipino fashion designers will also feature the wearable designs of Rit wear's finalists: Collection Miss Vipching, Hans Coquilla and Rey Villegas; from Davao, Fran Balbosua, Thorsten "Jiver" Tawpo and Ann Arroyo; and from Manila,

(MORE, 10)

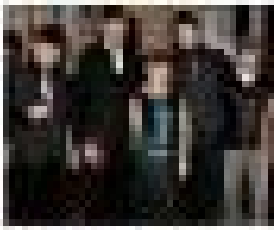
Rustan's

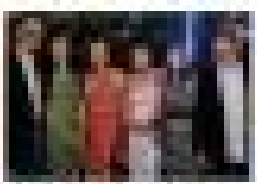
renewing

Christmas
Rustan's

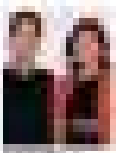


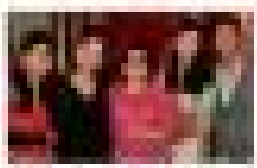
It's the ball season—and I'm having





Spanish whirl





wind in Cebu

Rustan's

indulging

Christmas

L'Oréal Professionnel brings the latest hair trends . . .

From page E1

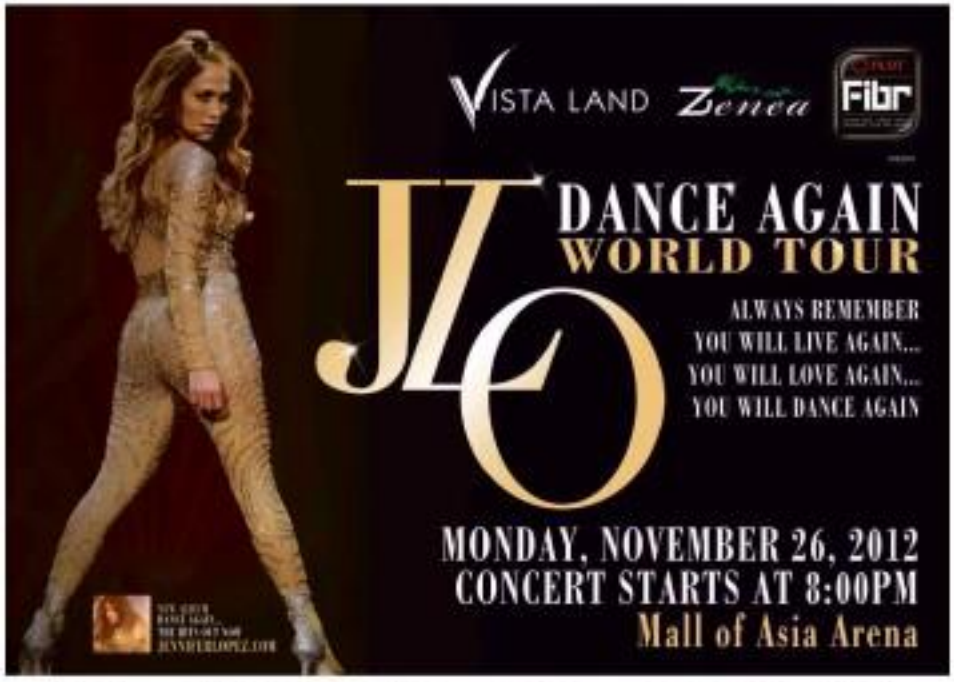
Nana Heinoff, Roland Alanis, Roxanne Hoey and Renee Parson.

The winning fashion designer will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to London's prestigious Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design to take a short course of his her choice, a spot in Inquirer Lifestyle and UKIE Magazine's Fast-UP fashion show, and business mentoring from fashion industry professionals.

Through this event, L'Oréal Professionnel reinforces its influence not only in the beauty industry, but also in the fashion industry.

The morning show will also feature the coronation of "Project Runway" designers and makeup by Mia Gonzales.

The L'Oréal Professionnel Retro Heavenly Hill Winter Color Collection 2012-2013 show will be on Nov. 6, 11 a.m., at Rockwell Tent, Plaza Garden, Rockwell Center, Makati City.



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Editor Thelma Sinson San Juan

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Sexy. Stimulating. Sage. Survivor

SHARING THE VOICE OF AGE AND WISDOM

Contributing Editor Chit Roces

JRS EXPRESS

YOUR PARTNER IN TIME

The infallibility of belief

Gilda Cordero Fernando

FOREVER 81

I AM PROUD, as every Pinoy is, that there is a new Filipino saint. What disturbed me was the hoopla and other newspapers splashing St. Pedro Calungsod's image for two days on the front pages, creeping up to the inside pages and even to the editorial cartoon! Dyuk!!!

One of our best cartoonists, Rebel dela Cruz, had done the initial representation of the saint and Pope and other saintees the 2D versions. Why were people now ordering Rebel's painting? That's how was that photo of children in Cebu singing the carved face with bamboo back. A comedienne, it was reported, was miraculously cured after a month in the ICU by a miracle of

How can I respect priests with wives and children, or pedophiles, and elephant tusk dealers?

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LAND

The infallibility...

Viewpage F1

the Filipino later. (We thanks to any attending physicians.) Furthermore, the mother had vowed, in thanksgiving, that she would take the infant, rain or typhoon, every day to the church where the image was enshrined. (Magiyo, magbabasakit ak?) A week later, a merchant was selling Pedro Calungsod dolls.

It was just too coincidental for her. What was the difference between these images and the proclaimed pagan idols that I thought had been eradicated with the imposition of the beliefs of the "Roman all" and Rafael del Pan of martyr-of-faith. The missionaries just replaced the idols with religious statues, that's all. But, see upstairs.

On the same week, a beloved Opus Dei friend came by for a surprise visit. She went on to know whether I still prayed, whether I still believed in God! I don't know why I had to explain (rhetorical?) myself since, in the end, she will intercede me a rosary.

The next night one of my sons came to visit, bringing pastel. Mahaboo and labo-ti baloy, and I complained to him about my friend. Strong sad! He was a former Opus Dei synapa. Hmm! So why did I have a son like that?!

Forever believer

I think the religion or philosophy we live by or the result of how the belief has come down to us. If your parents were good Catholics (or Protestants or whatever) and conveyed it by the example of their lives, you would be a fervent believer of the same. Or if you were a Muslim, Jew, Buddhist, Hindu, Iglesia ni Cristo member, Jehovah's Witness, Mormon, Seventh-day Adventist, Aglipayan, Born Again, Bahai, Jain, Sikh, Shinto, Taoist, Zoroastrian, Rastafarian, Scientologist, Wiccan, Unitarian Universalist, Quaker, Christian Science, Church of Christ, Latter Day Saint, Pentecostal, Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Anglican, Episcopalian, Presbyterian

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The roles we play, the rules we break

HOW THIRTY rules can one play in a lifetime? What perspective, and are we ever ready? In what ages do we start?

I was in a kindergarten class run by Overseas nuns who knew very little about showing love and affection. They were strict and watched us closely, not to much no one knew until we did but to find out what we were doing wrong.

What rules were we breaking? I was unsatisfactory. The teacher held up a mirror to me. Once in a while, it gently but firmly made contact with the palm of my left hand.

I so wanted in for that little girl who got ribbons and "atsa mga" for good behavior. I was not afraid of losing my mother, but I was awed by her looming presence. Her gaze locked the mood black-framed glasses was intimidating. I think her demeanor was only her way of communicating respect and mute obedience.

Up until graduation I would be an all that was required of me. I was a pretty good student. I obeyed the rules, most of the time. My aim in high school was to finish with honors and start life in the university far away from nuns singing vespers. I was a driven and determined senior. I couldn't wait to be in college. I had lofty dreams.

At home, I was expected to be an obedient and loving daughter and a well-behaved youngest sister. We had many rules there, too. I broke most.

Darkest road

There is a rebel in the heart of every young person. We think we know it all. We stretch the limitations as life begins to take its twists and turns. Predictably, we stand against the wind and dare it to take us down. And it does. We travel the darkest road with boxes a candle to light the way. And we stumble.

When I should have entered, I stood on the wrong English and forward on the sonnets of Shakespeare. I ventured a little too far from the safety net and plunged into the cobs of wife and mother. If anyone had overheard my confession, she repeats would have said "not really." It was another confession to a sinner that I was not alone in my emotions. Many women my age, some of them my own friends, were in similar straits. But others does one go for "Crossing Up 101?"

MY CHAIR ROCKS

As is normal gathering to introduce a new line of luxury hotel rooms, a just-for-fun questionnaire was passed among the guests. One item asked for the difference rules each partner can thought best fit her role as the "lady in the house."

Here are some of the top answers. Mommy Cook: Driver. Bamboo Thrasher: Doctor. Bebe ex: Laundry woman. Choo-Choo leader: Judge. Jeanne Oro-said: interior designer of many rooms. I liked one who called herself "healer of hoohoos." I can relate to the one who said nurse/wife, accountant and plumber/wife's social secretary. Challenging. How about one who dares not react? Show me a woman who does not "just have a feeling" that her child is sick.

I remember sensing so many hats that once in a while I had to switch one from the pace and take a breather. I had to collect my thoughts and recover a sensible sense of self.

Back in the day, I resented learning that women were evaded second in importance to men. In the Philippines, thanks to 300 years of Spanish domination, machismo lived. Today, that image has changed. We now have empowered women who are given equal billing with men in decision-making. They are informed, educated and valued in professionals and in the home. Yet, the old ideas linger.

Today's Filipina is an indispensable breadwinner. Where income is concerned, gender inequality has not been completely eradicated. But we have come a long way.

What was lost

Because I am from a generation now past, a part of me still clings to the way it used to be. And I grieve over what was lost in the name of progress.

Some of us have handed a measure of our gentleness and grace just to get ahead. We sons jostle and elbow our way up without looking back to see who we have pushed down. This is an irreparable loss.

It breaks my heart to see the continuing exodus of women overseas workers who leave home to take care of children not their own, to assure a brighter future for their families. This is today's reality.

I read a few more of the classic replies on the questionnaire. Due in particular caught my attention. It said: daughter/mom/mother in my room.

It is a law of life that with time the roles of mother and daughter are often reversed. It happens gently, without fanfare or drama. When the need arises, as it can be, a daughter steps up to the plate and becomes the eyes, ears, hands and feet for her mother.

That was evident the other day at a sumptuous birthday lunch held at Wild Flour. The food was delicious. But nothing was sweeter than the sound that radiated from three moms, four daughters and one granddaughter. These were daughters and friend/moms. Seeing them, I realized the legacy of a friendship that spanned lives of three generations.

It didn't much matter that some had time are now fleshy or flawed. There was enough unconditional love there to make up for what time has inevitably ravaged. There was gentle chiding from the younger moms about meditation and ice cream. Coke Zero mama: Sit were indulged.

At one end of the table, three seniors remembered the good old days. We talked about parties, how we danced, the music we dated, the roses we received and how she got away. We laughed until our tears got to the way. How true it is that as any age, hope springs eternal.

As we said our goodbyes, my friend leaned over and said, "We are so lucky. Our children love us." I hugged her tight. But of her memory may be gone, but she knows he sees that she is loved. I can't think of a blessing better than that. God is good!

Aging in style

Chit Roces

NOT QUITE THERE

TO BE THERE LOVABLE Delgado zooms in on a front pew of the Notre Dame chapel in Bacolod for a Mass commemorating the anniversary of Cora Aquino's death. As usual he says Cory's decades, they are devoted to remembering her life, and as usual for just about any occasion, wearing their golden brown hair neatly tousled. In their late fifties, they look 8 miles than when I saw them last, but they remain bright-eyed and enthusiastic.

It seems the Delgados have been in every yellow Brigade I can remember, from Cory's presidential campaign rallies to her funeral to her enshrinement's every election for just about. Only naturally something has changed through the years' own long run. They are no longer sitting shoulder to shoulder, for instance, beside each one on a white-cushioned carpet.

Blessed with wealth and means, the visitors would have lived in comfort all their lives, but they have also been able to do family businesses and also involve themselves not only in charities, but also in campaigns that not only get one's hands dirty, but could also, silly get one hurt because those are pointed out in the streets...firestorms and other venues of much campaigns.

Indeed, for me, such campaigns would cost have been a lot more fun if I'd been with our them. They are among the ladies who have shown the way to gracious aging. I've had a number of them in my life.

For the epitome of this, for instance, I have Tita Lining. Tall and slim, she looks lovely and always answered in dangerously pricing on hand heels. I've told she acquires her style secrets, not in a beauty salon, but at her—it reflects if she's in yellow in animal print if she's in animal print. It is, she says, for easy spotting.

She reminds me of my own mom, who wore everything in matching sets—bag and shoes, jewelry, eyeglasses, even cane, though not a matching one. She and Tita Lining have the same sense of fun and camaraderie—looking good, eating well, and laughing at everything and everyone, including themselves, even as they conquered illnesses.

Blessed

For many reasons, my list has to include Tita Feebie. Indeed, she makes me feel blessed for knowing her—efficient, reliable, positive, practical, generous, loving. She's never one to complain. She has no fear of anything, least of all death. Now in her late 80s, she would no longer partake of any long-life noodles. Recently an hour from birthday she moved to the acronym, stately pensive. She hops what she can in sachets, no longer in anything big gos, not even for the loss bargain.

Her children, daughter Ana in particular, won't allow her to surrender to that. Angela brought on by age, however. For hair loss, they look her to a specialist.

But, says Tita Feebie, "I don't see that as a problem at all. It's cheaper to buy a wig. At first, I could buy many different wigs for the rest of the entire program."

She may be herself who's now on age to such rigors, one style, but she goes along to make her children and other people around her happy. So, indeed, the nose seem makes her look good!

For Miles and Susie, making their separate school children, all living in the Louisiana, happy in the main challenge at their age. Now travel gets to their bones, and the month's stay for the Christmas season longer and longer and colder and colder, but they just can't seem to imagine a season without their grandchildren. Their home is filled a solution. They're bringing their dream of many years with them.

But my favorite example is the lady I see whenever we collect our senior's allowances in midwear and around Christmas, in our barangay office. The general dame arrives in a white SUV driven by a uniformed chauffeur. She is helped onto her wheelchair and pushed by a cute girl, a cousin-caring her purse standing by.

Soon collecting and sifting through a sheaf program, she socializes a bit with fellow senior before she is absorbed out, on her lap a bottle of water and a lunch pack from Jollibee. She hands her P1,000 over to her nurse, who puts it away. She hums and senses good-bye to everyone in the way, announcing, "It's the only thing I receive from the government, so I'm happy to take it."

That's the spirit of aging—jubilant, and in style.

For style, nobody holds a candle to Gilda Cordero-Fernando, mentor, friend and idol, dead at 81, a classic to the finish. In her last column, she described her run from Capitol Medical to her wheelchair. I still can't forget how she first understood her "Willie": "When! I've got schools!"

I can hear to text her: "The image of the proud papacy of years ago, when the hospital is all your schools hair all the chair was to your house, under the shade of your polka dotted pink parasol, escorted by your encourage, still larger in my mind to ever wake me shuddle."

It seems Gilda is simply incapable of doing anything—celebrating a birthday, launching a book, hosting a meeting or going home from the neighborhood hospital—without leaving her mark.

I prayed the rosary with her and all the prayers I know. I tried to will myself to stay up, to be with her as she clung tenaciously to life. But I was tired and sleepy, so I went to bed. Then it was no one in the house with me except my maids and the nurse on duty. At around 6:30 a.m., her nurse called me to say she was gone. She was 97.

Resilient lot

I telephoned my many-time friend Jessie Rivera, whose wife Gee came regularly to play mahjong with me on Sunday afternoons. I told him the sad though not unexpected news. I request, of further that I had called the Loyola Memorial Funeral to pick up her body. He said he would come over with Eric because someone had to sign the death certificate, otherwise Loyola would not take the body.

I told the maids and the maids to prepare breakfast for us three, and to serve it on the dining table in the family room just outside my mother' bedroom. Louie welcomed the breakfast after he had signed the death certificate.

We were still eating when the Loyola van came to take my mother's body away. We told them to wait while we finished up. It seemed insensitive of us to be eating while my mother's body was still warm, but never subtracting away by her side. It was her first pause to die, on her. My friend Nening Hizon offered, by way of explanation, that when the heart is wounded, the body must be fed.

We humans are a resilient lot. We have to accept and cope, no matter how long it takes. There are many of us, for there is still a whole lot of living to do.

Rabbi Gilman advises to "open" one's "heart wide into the body of life."

So life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one."

In loving memory of a 'lalaking disente'

Minyong Orobiten

I DED UP the house of my father, Godofredo "Time Godong" Orobiten, in 1998. Time Godong died in 1997, when I was still an infant, barely a year old. After 66 years, his grave was in a new, cockpit state and I decided to make the transition to a newly built mausoleum where my mother was buried.

Time Godong died when he was only 54 years old. When I was a little boy, my mother always showed me my father's pictures, and I've grown accustomed to his face forever.

His mother was handsome in a fop-by-standard way, with sense and blade eyes, brown, dark, sincere eyes, a high nose, and well-defined lips. It was more somewhat large and spread, but neatly rounded, parted on the left side and slicing with pomade. One of my father's apparent was a shy expression, a sign of politeness and good breeding common in good families in Laguna during the pre-war days.

When I was 10, my mother gave me a shoe box where my father's love letters to her were kept. She told me to read them up until my late father. I'd always hear them say that my father was genuinely a lalaking disente, thoughtful, polite.

When I was 12, my mother gave me a shoe box where my father's love letters to her were kept. She told me to read them. And from those letters, I learned how patiently my father courted her. His gentle yet persistent thoughtfulness and affection won the love reasons for winning Inay's love.

Worn-out grave

Time Godong was frustrated over the sorrow cemetery gate. The sepulture's didn't have a hard time reaching the worn-out grave for it had been battered by storms and rain for 60 years. When the rubble cleared, we saw the tomb's original plaster: it was probably 5 feet 5 inches tall, resembling a little bottle precisely mixed with earth. But the shell used a piece of jute sack earth were still intact. We scooped every thing and arranged them neatly on a plastic sheet. He was my father all right. I knew the shape and size of the forehead from his photograph.

Suddenly I felt an urge to buy that shell, for all the years of his absence, for all the times when I felt I needed a father and there was none around to take to PTA meetings and I some ideas, wondering in the gathering. Feeling out of place, envious of the other boys who came with their fathers.

For the first time in my life, I touched my father. I touched his skull tenderly wiping away with care the dusty earth, letting my fingers glide over his forehead several times, gently. Up Uncovering, until I entered the room that I felt a cried wanted to touching a piece of hot rib, a piece of his hip bone, a piece of his jaw, a piece of his eye socket, a piece of his nose.

GUT FEEL

I felt my father was actually present...loving my touch and so intensely grateful that I must have holding him for the first time.

Among the bones, I found a small medal of the Blessed Virgin Mary and another medallion commemorating the Holy Year celebrated in the '50s. My mother must have pinned them in his clothes. Inay Anita made sure Time Godong went in confirmation on his deathbed.

I felt sorry for my father. He missed a lot of things...my gentle and soul-high school graduation, my winning a Palanca award for short story in 1961, my wedding in 1967 (and another in 1991) and giving him his son, or my receiving the 1995 Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Creative Guild of the Philippines.

Perseguion more than anything, advertising, a profession I had to severely empathize because our product was creativity to sales communications. To create/harass advertising, I used the "think Filipino, feel Filipino and talk Filipino" strategy. It always worked like a charm.

Dying brand

In 1970, "Lalaking Disente" was the catchphrase of a TV commercial we did for Three Flowers pomade hair tonic. At that time it was a dying brand, because long and unscented hair became the fad. The

TATAY Godong

TV commercial had a typical opening theme song, which went this way:

Lalaking disente,
Hilaway mo akong sakay
Ilang dakilang lata ng lagay
At bango mo'y
pihit ilong langhapin
Lalaking disente ahhhh.....

Ivan Fegerido, jukebox queen of the '70s, sang it in her alluring, sultry style, dedicating it to all macho men and adult professionals who were not effeminate. Sure enough, the "Lalaking Disente" was a big hit, and Three Flowers pomade enjoyed a surge in sales. The brand was saved from losing the town to the morgue.

My inspiration for the idea for "Lalaking Disente" in selling pomade came from the hairstyle and images of Time Godong I've kept in my mind. He fit the idea of lalaking disente, a concept rich with meaning in the cultural outlook of an idealized male in Spanish-ancestors during the pesuan period of 1870 to 1930's World War II.

Although long dead, my father was a big help in creating advertising with a Filipino soul.

Every All Souls Day, it has been my duty to light a candle at my father's grave. Inay Anita taught me to do that when I was a three-year-old boy.

As the candles burn bright through the night, I can feel the supreme perfection of the living and the dead. I become fully aware of my immortality. I know my soul has a place in Heaven, where all people who died in the grace of God will sleep with Jesus. Christ dwell in the full enjoyment of what St. Thomas Aquinas calls "beatific vision."

Up there, I'm sure there's a lalaking disente in the midst of God, His angels and His saints.

E-mail the author at dgoc-dimat@gmail.com

Five deaths in the family—and still a whole lot of living to do

From page F1

direct to the stomach. She was okay for several months but became progressively weaker. The doctor said she was very fragile and could go any time.

On the evening of Oct. 16, 2006, she began to have laboured breathing. She was struggling and gasping. I wonder if she devil was trying to claim her because she seemed to be fighting someone. My mother was a strong-willed woman who was a daily Mass goer when she was still healthy and mentally fit.

I prayed the rosary with her and all the prayers I knew. I tried to will myself to stay up, to be with her as she clung tenaciously to life. But I was tired and sleepy, so I went to bed. Then it was no one in the house with me except my maids and the nurse on duty. At around 6:30 a.m., her nurse called me to say she was gone. She was 97.

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Tweet love

YOU'RE BIG. Jinkie Pineda Tenerife posted on Twitter twice: "I love Pinoy time! Buzz lalam ti." She also wrote on Facebook: "I commit—it is big achievement to come out on the front page of the tabloids two days in a row. Thank you for the random stuffed toy and the framed cool page. I bet how proud you were of me." Raquel San Diego-di

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DANIEL Day-Lewis in new Spielberg movie

Brilliant as Abraham Lincoln Only In Hollywood /G6

Vic Sotto's exciting new show

VIC SOTTO'S new game show, "The Million Peso Money Drop," got off to an exciting start last Sunday on TV5, with Kris and Iya Quiwave playing for a cool cool ten million bucks for their late dad Dolphy's foundation's purpose. Alas, the evening didn't have a happy ending for them, but up to the last question, they were doing really well.

The new program caught our interest in a special way right from the start, because it presented an unusually eclectic range of topics for its contestants to choose from.

Logically, the player who would do well in the show should have a wide range of interests. The Quizon brothers filled the bill quite comfy, so they ended up with half a million pesos left — before they lost it all on the final question!

Despite their extensive knowledge, from sports to the United Nations' official languages, the Quizon siblings suffered from a bad case of nerves throughout the program, because one bad call could cost them and their beneficiary a lot of money!

It made the proceedings even more "exciting" for viewers and yourself for the contestants-siblings, host Toots playfully questioned some of the brothers' hunches, prompting them to reconsider their options, before taking a deep breath and sticking to their original answers.

VIC SOTTO'S 65

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SM CITY DANAO

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SM CITY NAGA

SM CITY NAGA

VIC SOTTO

Vic Sotto's...

From page B1

Also, "scary" was the way that the show's huge "money drop" contraption would "swallow" the pile of money that contestants bet on the wrong answer. You can't get more chillingly graphic than that.

But the primetime relevant of the "Money Drop" show delighted viewers, because at least and his "bureau mates" consistently clashed with each other. The brothers made a beautifully symbiotic and emergency team that thought to use and wanted our another, while Sotto expertly sifted with whom to bring out the best in their synergy.

The fact that the money soared from the game would go to charity made the process even more exciting. Unfortunately, it all went for naught because the Quizcast fumbled the final query about up, who or among being one of the Seven Deadly Sins. Well, they very nearly gave it a good try—and, better luck next time!

We kind, too, that the show will keep coming up with good winnings like the Quizon brothers. They had just the right mix of intelligence, personality and show biz savvy to make the program enjoyable, and they also knew how to handle and expand on Sotto's comedic skills.

As for the bad case of nerves and stress that the Quizcast experienced from start to finish, it comes with the territory due to the huge amount up for grabs, so other contestants will just have to find or develop the backbone to deal with it as best as they can.

Vic Sotto is coming into his own as a prime exponent of quiz and game show hosting, along with Edu Manzano.

Without shifting from one another, they've arrived at their own take on the different hosting genres. Anyway, TV hosts should watch them at work!

Hollywood sign gets biggest renovation for 90th birthday

DID YOU KNOW...

LOS ANGELES—The iconic Hollywood sign overlooking Tinseltown is getting its biggest renovation on its 90th birthday next year.

Workers are using window cleaner-style platforms to dangle about the 13-meter-tall letters, power-wash the corrugated iron and apply nearly 650 gallons of fresh paint, organizers said.

The operation, which started early October, will take eight to 10 weeks to restore the sign to its bright-white glory atop Mount Lee in the Hollywood Hills north of Los Angeles, said the Hollywood Sign Trust. The original sign was erected in 1923 to advertise a property development called Hollywoodland, but the last four letters were removed in the 1940s.

AFP

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
THEATRE MART
1 2
PROMENADE
3 4 5

Toyota Corolla Altis
Toyota Vios
Toyota Innova
Toyota Fortuner
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Toyota Prius
Toyota Camry
Toyota Land Cruiser Prado
Toyota Land Cruiser
Toyota Hiace
Toyota Coaster

GLORIETTA CINEMAS 1-10
GLORIETTA 4 CINEMAS
PLATINUM CINEMA
SKY FALL
SKY FALL In 3D
A SECRET AFFAIR
WRECK IT RALPH
THREE DAYS OR LESS WITH YOU
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Skyfall 7:00pm • 9:45pm • 12:30mn
2 Skyfall 9:00am • 11:30am • 2:40pm • 5:20pm • 8:20pm • 11:10pm
3 Skyfall 9:20am • 12:10pm • 3:00pm • 5:50pm • 8:40pm • 11:30pm
4 Suddenly It's Magic 9:00am • 11:20am • 1:50pm • 4:20pm • 6:50pm • 9:30pm • 12:10mn
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EASTWOOD CINEMAS
1 Secret Affair 1:40pm • 3:20pm Argo 5:40pm • 8:20pm • 11:00pm
2 Tikbi: Awang Chronicles 3D 2:10pm • 4:30pm Skyfall 2D 6:50pm • 10:00pm
3 Skyfall 2:50pm • 5:10pm 8:20pm • 11:30pm
4 Suddenly It's Magic 2:30pm • 5:00pm 7:30pm • 10:00pm
5 Wreck It Ralph 1:50pm • 4:00pm • 6:10pm 8:20pm • 10:30pm
6 Skyfall 2D 1:30 • 4:00pm 7:50pm • 11:00pm
7 Skyfall 1:00pm • 6:10pm 7:20pm • 10:30pm
Upcoming events at EASTWOOD CITY
Sponge Cola LIVE! Nov 3 • 7PM
Josh TY's Lock n Roll Nov 10 • 7PM
Martin Nievera LIVE! Nov 11 • 7PM

LUCKY CHINATOWN
PORTE Grill Snack Preview Piano Teacher's Guild Nov. 11 • 2PM
MENAGE PAEZA AT MOMENTS HILL
Jovito LIVE! Nov 10 • 7PM
Martin Nievera LIVE! Nov 11 • 7PM

LUCKY CHINATOWN
1 Suddenly It's Magic 10:30am • 1:00pm • 3:30pm 5:40pm • 7:45pm • 10:00pm
2 Secret Affair 2D 10:00am • 12:10pm • 2:20pm
Skyfall 2D 4:00pm • 7:00pm 10:00pm
3 Wreck it Ralph 2D 10:20am • 12:40pm 3:00pm • 5:20pm 7:40pm • 10:00pm
4 Skyfall 10:30am • 1:30pm • 4:30pm 7:30pm • 10:15pm

CARELL KNIGHTLEY
SEEKING A FRIEND FOR THE END OF THE WORLD
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 13 (R-13)

EXCLUSIVE
OPENS NOVEMBER 7 AT GLORIETTA 4, GREENBELT 3 & TRINOMA CINEMAS
"Rich in humor & heart!"
"An ultimately moving comedy-drama w/terrific performances from Carell & Knightley."
Glorietta Greenbelt Trinoma

Pretty ladies' tee time with big boss

RUSHES

By the Entertainment Staff

POWERFUL boss' session is right in front of a golf course. One morning, regular golfers had the surprise of their lives. As country-club members were about to tee off, they sighted Pretty Starlet having brunch in the veranda of PS's house.

Weeks later, they saw another woman having tea at the terrace, decorating on a mode, this one wasn't a celebrity, but an employee in PS's company.

PS has decided to find he "playboy."

Home invasion

Before tragedy hit, Controversial Celebrity was often as high as a kite, said someone.

After one heady night, CC was left in a disgraceful shape. When CC woke up, he couldn't figure out where he was.

CC asked a shocked neighbor: "What are you doing here?" The neighbor said, "Tito/Inday, You should go home." Ok.

Close encounter

Only those in the know would've noticed A. Influential Models made A rare public appearance in a show but publicity, whose one of the hottest chart was Scattered down.

M was previously linked to E. As luck would have it, SA was standing by the door when E made a grand exit. As if completely oblivious of the many scrapbreweries, D gingerly tapped M's shoulder.

They have mastered the fine art of making dead-ma.

Snow block

Penny Amelet would rather make the public believe that she's on pace to devise more. But there are rare snubs, all cases pointing PS, according to starer-encogers.

PS is allegedly the secret love of Wasted Insider's Philanthropy Bronson.

People think PS leads a boring life among the rich-and-famous. In their mind, Penny Gomez pointedly reminded that PS has led a far more scandalous life than hers!

Rare that the source than the former great M, under a pop video fronting that the tandem would open a can of worms!

Spotted

In a special sneak preview of the digitally restored film "Ten, Plain, Mary" at Rockwell Power Plant mall last Tuesday, moviegoers John Lloyd Cruz and Angelica Panganiban were spotted in the same row audience. It was yummy "sweet" scene, said an insider.

At one point, Angelica was seeing her head on Lloydie's shoulders as they watched the war soccer directed by Bryan Gallego.

Lloydie was overheard telling Derek Ramsay that he was honored to meet the filmmakers and watch the landmark classic.

The digitally restored "Ten" will open the Cinema One digital fest on Nov. 20.

Hardest part

MUMBAI—Despite the slick special effects, creation of a fake tiger and shooting underwater, the toughest part of making "Life of Pi" was telling the story, director Ang Lee said on Monday.

The Academy Award-winning director, who is in Mumbai to promote his latest project based on the best-selling novel of the same name, said it was the hardest movie he had ever done.

"The book makes a philosophical point about theology and ecology. It examines it, humors. It's me, that is the hardest. How do you create illusion, especially with so much meaning?" Lee said at a press conference in Mumbai. "I'll be honest with you, I have been very stressed for the last four years."

The film, which will be released worldwide on Nov. 23, opens the International Film Festival of India on Nov. 20. Reuters

ANGELICA Panganiban

LOVI Poe

VICE Ganda

LJ REYES

MRS. PHILIPPINES 2012 Jacqueline Aquino (left) was the Face of the Year award at the Mrs. Globe 2012 World Beauty Pageant held recently in Rancho Mirage, California. Above photo is national pageant director Marian Cora Coloso-Quimpo, who was the National Director of the Year honor—another special award for the beauty pageant for many years.

MATTEO Guidicelli

Top of Bandera

The top show biz news in the business national Bandera (and why we are moved to say so myself):

■ Bida: Ting na nanay palabiro si Jinkee, may GF na siya! (Did I look at us.)

■ Lobong show na: Hindi nanaman sa harap si Juicy Lucy (Is it)

■ Mga Bossa nanandun ang 'lav sa pamilya, pero hindi nyo mahal. (Happens, eat lesson.)

■ Bad trip daw mga mga nanonong kanuna: Angelica: 'Ang mo akong sagutin! Hoooo kng! (Why is this angry now?)

■ Hindi kaya pagmulan ng samaan ng loob ni Lani? 'Bakit kay Jackie' ako hinahanap ng mga nanonood nitong? (There's no getting used to some things.)

■ Bossa nalimutan na pupunta si Sir. Bro. Eduguard. (No we have.)

■ Sbit Ganda nawagalgal sa 'Showtime,' ang bagay ngsabog-bay Vhong. (Uh.)

■ 'Ayaw ang nagpiliana plano mito, napaano mo?' Vice 'Hindi ko! 'A Kilayan lang ma-salbay ang 'nasa ako' sa MMFF. (Shoulda's moviegoers have a say in this?)

■ Marian kay Angel Jolong Jenna Gomez talaga ang bahay, pero ok lang (Is he nanay si Angel?)

■ Lovi may nanawrte ang walang dobos, mahir sa kalak-i. ('Dad's bro sometimes wrong.)

■ Bayo hanggang ligawan na lang di magbabalayan: wheeeng. Bro-kan amanchalet, may kamahalang. (What pang new project?)

■ Dahil sa pagmamahal at pag-aalaga ni Zaijian, Bea Alonzo (hirang ngayon pa lang ako nagkakaanak? Dad's not go-Bea.)

■ Hindi nanaman nanaaaket ang kalagayan ni 'di ba?'—Lloydie (The point being...?)

■ Hindi totoong nagligaya na pelag si John Lloyd, Angelica Kilay ang kadismaan, kasi pa ring tumatawa si Derek. (Ah.)

■ Hindi lang daw manonood ang nagsaya ito: Si Papay nagpaka-nang mapuno ng Pinoy bvibes, maghe-mess na! (Mayroon na ang dapat ayusin? It's Heaving.)

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Erich says Thai screen partner very playful, even naughty

By Allen Policarpio
Contributor

SEAWEEDS: Alisson Stoll of the movie "Suddenly It's Magic" in Bangkok drew across Erich Gonzales since in her bathing suit. Thai superstar Mario Maurer and acquainted her with a different culinary.

One of the first things Erich observed was that the Thai film crew followed a 12-hour per day limit, unlike in the Philippines where shooting could extend beyond 24 grueling hours.

"They were very strict about it, so it was tough at first. But we eventually got used," Erich said in a recent press conference for the movie.

Director Rory Quintos added: "We're usually very passionate and by just, while the Thais are laid back. They thought we were crazy when they learned that we worked such long hours!"

Produced by Star Cinema, "Suddenly It's Magic" is about Thai superstar Mario Maurer (Mario), who in an effort to escape the schoolwork of show biz, flies to the Philippines where he meets and falls in love with Joey Herbosa (Erich), a baker.

For the Thais, the brand is the most sacred part of the body, and touching it is considered taboo. Unaware of this, Erich, in one of the scenes, gave Mario a real slap, which shocked him.

Similarities

Mario's eminent, makeup artist and stylist, who were all watching the shoot, jumped off their seats and started rallying frantically in Thai. Apparently, onscreen slapping is customarily simulated in Thailand.

"Now, we don't like it," Erich explained. "I need Bing Mario was okay with it. I apologized, and asked his team if we could do the scene again. They said: 'No, only once!'"

But Erich said she later realized their views also similarities between Pinoys and Thais.

"We're both happy and hospitable people," she said. "I even cooked adobo for Mario and his team!"

Working with Mario was fun and effortless, said Erich. "He doesn't have an ounce of arrogance. He's very professional ... also very playful and naughty."

More than that, the quality that Erich admired most in Mario was his openness about his relationship with his girlfriend of nine years. Did that inspire Erich to be open with her love life as well? "Well," she said, "I've never lied about anything. I've been dating a man show his guy for over a year."

"Suddenly It's Magic" opened in theaters on Oct. 31.

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4
1: WRECK-IT RALPH (2D)
2: SKYFALL
3: SKYFALL
4: LAWLESS, TIKTIK, THE ASWANG CHRONICLES
5: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC
6a: SKYFALL(2D)
7: A SECRET AFFAIR

GREENBELT 3
1: A SECRET AFFAIR
2: SKYFALL

GREENBELT 5
1: SKYFALL
2: SKYFALL (3D)
3: SKYFALL (2D)
4: WRECK-IT RALPH (3D)
5: A SECRET AFFAIR

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1: SKYFALL
2: SKYFALL (2D)
3: WRECK-IT RALPH (3D)
4: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC
5: A SECRET AFFAIR

AYALA CENTER CEBU
1: SKYFALL
2: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC
3: WRECK-IT RALPH (2D)
4: A SECRET AFFAIR

MARQUEE
1: A SECRET AFFAIR
2: SKYFALL (2D)
3: WRECK-IT RALPH (2D)
4: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC

MARKET! MARKET!
1: SKYFALL (2D)
2: SHE-DAD'S IN LOVE WEEK 2 JUNE
3: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC
4: WRECK-IT RALPH (3D)
5: LAWLESS, TIKTIK, THE ASWANG CHRONICLES
6: A SECRET AFFAIR
7: TIKTIK, THE ASWANG CHRONICLES

TRINOMA
1: SKYFALL (2D)
2: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC
3: WRECK-IT RALPH (3D)
4: LAWLESS, TIKTIK, THE ASWANG CHRONICLES
5: A SECRET AFFAIR
6: SKYFALL
7: SKYFALL

ABREEZA
1: SKYFALL (2D)
2: WRECK-IT RALPH (3D)
3: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC
4: A SECRET AFFAIR

HARBOR POINT
1: SUDDENLY IT'S MAGIC
2: A SECRET AFFAIR
3: WRECK-IT RALPH (3D)
4: SKYFALL

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ALABANG TOWN CENTER
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November 3-9/Activity Center

MARKET! MARKET!
Olympic World Sale
November 2-4/Activity Center

TRINOMA
Greyson Chance: Catch This Platinum Selling Artist
November 11/6:30 pm/Activity Center

MARQUEE
Bumper to Bumper Car Show
November 3-4/Activity Center

ABREEZA
SPMC Event
November 5

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Daniel Day-Lewis fears he'll 'desecrate' greatest US leader

LEWIS as Abraham Lincoln: "Discovering his humor allowed me to be playful in a more accessible way than usual."

LOS ANGELES—"I would not wish to be the person that [anyone] desecrated the best loved President this country has ever known," **Daniel Day-Lewis** admitted in a recent interview, revealing his initial concern about playing **Abraham Lincoln** in Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln."

He would not marry in a stunning performance, Daniel breathes life into America's greatest leader, humanizes the stern-looking 16th President ingrained in our consciousness, no thanks to his famous white Georgia marble statue in Washington, DC or his depiction in memorable version in Disneyland.

On the contrary, the actor's Abe Lincoln—a mere prune to telling humorous anecdotes even at the most critical moments during the Civil War—is bound to win more admirers for the Great Emancipator.

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD
Rather I Remember

'Best performance'

It's Daniel's best performance since his Oscar- and Golden Globe-winning turn in **Paul Thomas Anderson**'s "There Will Be Blood." It was unquestionable, though, for the London native to think really hard before he accepted the title role in the **Tony Kushner**-written drama set in Lincoln's final months in office as the leader fiercely fought to end the Civil War and abolish slavery. **Tommy Lee Jones** (as **Thaddeus Stevens**) and **Sally Field** (**Mary Todd Lincoln**) are among the standouts in a brilliant cast.

"I was very anxious about making this decision for play Lincoln," Daniel confessed. The photos don't do him justice. He was a good-looking man, especially when he smiled—his whole face lighted up, his soulful eyes glowed. He had this winning habit of looking down when he laughed, like a boy bashful to be breaking into mirth.

"The will ... the energy is going to have to come from [the actor]. But I'm also very aware of the broader sense of responsibility to the director, Steve and Tommy, to my colleagues ... I had to ask myself whether I could genuinely serve this story and serve Steven. I wasn't sure if I could do that."

On striking, Daniel candidly pointed out: "It seemed like an outlandish idea to make somebody who grew up in Southeast London and just make him the president of the United States. And not any old president ..."

Daniel, who just donated the manuscripts of his late father, Sir's 1960s' poet laureate **Cecil Day-Lewis**, to Oxford University, continued: "Lincoln seems so unapproachable to most of us, especially from the outside of this country. So, but then for him been mythologized to the point of untouchability. So you approach him, he becomes almost inaccessibly accessible. It was in his character to be welcoming. He was very open. Humor was such a huge part of his life and characters. That was one of the most beautiful discoveries for me in getting to know him. Discovering his humor allowed me to be playful in a more accessible way than usual."

> 'I was very anxious ... The photos don't do him justice. He was a good-looking man, especially when he smiled–his whole face lighted up, his soulful eyes glowed'

Daniel as Reuben Abe for the first time in "Lincoln." He brings soul and passion to the revered head of state, enhanced by his facial makeup which do not call attention to themselves at all. Just look very much appear to the man. "I was quite keen early in complete denial about the whole makeup thing," Daniel said, again laughing, his eyes downcast.

A shock

"It didn't occur to me that I was going to need any makeup. It came as a lot of a shock," he said. "I've always liked to avoid using makeup over the years. I used to love hanging it up in the theater, but I'm sorry guys when I'm working on film. It felt to me as if that were going to be something of a burden and it didn't turn out to be."

He added: "It was probably an hour and a half in the chair every morning. By the time they would get it down to a fine art, they'd have really done wonderful work. The last thing you want is for people to talk about makeup because what you like is for it not to occur to anyone that there was any."

Then, he graciously cited the "incredible" makeup team, "Lois Burwell was the chief makeup artist. Her assistants **Bonni Myers** and **Cara Mia Kenyon** came to [when] his did our first makeup test on [it]. This was probably a year before we shot the film. Then, during the course of that year, I got to know a little more of what I was looking for. They likewise had a better impression of what they were looking for. We did a third, if not fourth, test when we got to Virginia [the film's location]. We needed to do proper lighting in camera as well."

Lincoln as a father

Asked if he found similarities with Lincoln as he researched and played him, Daniel answered: "It would be preposterously arrogant to suggest that I had any similarities with that man. On a basic human level, I was able to understand very quickly and accurately his role as a father. He was an unlucky husband. his children, I feel that was contributed in a will to many of the decisions he made."

He continued: "Compassion is a thing that you see into using hindsight ... his entire life, both for his most benign ... whatever they might be and for attitudes as well. He had a sense of empathy and compassion. I am not saying that I drew from qualities to the same degree but I would recognize a corresponding element. And really the thing which I already mentioned—his humor was just as delicious for me to discover. The more we read to see in all the images—in which he's represented, especially in those magnificent photographs that (**Alexander**) **Gardner** took, Lincoln seems like a man of weighed down with responsibility that he looked so deeply serious, so unquestionably thoughtful. He was these things but he was also a man of incredible wit and humor."

DANIEL Day-Lewis

Sense of sadness

About current **President Barack Obama**, Daniel was emphatic: "I personally find it obscene when people question the present president's credentials as an American citizen. I find that disgusting." Declaring, he remarked, "I agreed just playing the president, but to discuss visible how the president (Obama) has aged in elevation to his look in the last few years. My goodness, it's enough for me to try and imagine what like. I'm not the person to answer why do those things. No. I think somewhat cruelly, it's a question we should ask ourselves."

In an earlier interview, Steven said that the last day of filming, when Daniel was shedding his Lincoln character and speaking in a British accent again, was one of the filmmaker's saddest moments: "I was very sad as Steven was on the last day." Daniel stressed: "Thank goodness, we did finish because we needed to finish. It was right that we finished when we did, but yes, there was a tremendous sense of sadness. There was not a single day from the moment when I first threw my hat in the ring with Steven and Tony that I wasn't grateful to be exploring that man's life. I felt a tremendous sense of privilege to be allowed to do that. I gave to love him so much that I really didn't want to part company."

Laughing now he said: "I really grew to love that man in a way that I never really thought you could love a person you never met."

Loving Lincoln

He pointed out something else that became more difficult as filming ended. "Sometimes it's suggested that the difficulty is experiencing the spirit of [the character]. It's not that at all. It's quite the opposite. It's really one's reluctance to let go [of a character] because, after all, you have invested a substantial amount of one's life in exploring a character's life. Often some trouble to try and create it, make it live. It's a very strange thing that from one day to the next, it comes just like that. It's over but the beautiful thing in this case is that I can now go back to loving Lincoln from the other side of the line."

Very available

Daniel gave a glimpse of his personal life when he talked about his son, his former wife actress-screen director **Rebecca Miller**, who's the daughter of playwright **Arthur Miller**, and our mutual friend **Isabelle Adjani**. Chuckling again, Daniel revealed: "They didn't even know what I did until a couple of years ago. My 14-year-old son asked what I did. He said, 'I think he's in construction.' That was compounded by what he found on the radio a couple of years later. He heard somebody say, 'I think he makes chairs to his eyes rise.' He thought that was the funniest thing he'd ever heard—that I was a chair maker."

His next romance with stunning Israeli supermodel **Bar Rafaeli** is not known. Daniel is very available.

He's single. And so it seems that he does love the house. Daniel gets the world with some of the finest performances of our time.

E-mail the columnist at renatodm_0307@yahoo.com. Follow him at http://twitter.com/rapadurabuzz.

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007
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Revised BOT Law IRR for PPP Transactions

ARE YOU CONFUSED OR OUTDATED? The changes to the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the Build-Operate-and-Transfer (BOT) Law that took effect in the year 2012 will have a significant impact on how we all transact or implement our deals whether we are in the government or private sector. The Center for Global Best Practices in collaboration with Forensic Law and Policy Strategies, Isidro Bustamante & Associates, declares makers & officials from chambers of commerce, Government Owned & Controlled Corporations, Multilateral Development Banks, construction companies, NGAs, GOCCs & LGUs, lawyers, business consultants and those interested in BOT & PPP to attend a one-day pioneering seminar entitled "Revised BOT Law IRR for PPP Transactions", scheduled on Friday, November 23, 2012 at The Peninsula Manila, Makati City. This program is MCLE-accredited. Supreme Court of the Philippines. For details and a complete list of seminars, you may log on to www.cgbp.org or call (02) 840-7348/ 59 and 556-8966/ 69. Globe lines: (0922) 512-1306 or 07 or Bogie-line: 0918-422-3346.

This one-of-a-kind seminar will feature two experts in the field of PPP Transactions: Atty. Alberto C. Agra who holds the distinction of the only Certified PPP specialist and Certified Regulation Specialist in Asia and the only 2 in the world. He was the former Secretary of Justice, Solicitor General and Government Corporate Counsel. He has written 3 authoritative books on the seminar topic namely 1st Attorney's PPS BOT and JV: A Legal Annotation and Model PPP Code (1st LCAT IN) Corollary on Local Autonomy and Local Governments; and (c)PPP for LGUs. Presently he is the president of Forensic Law and Policy Strategies, a private think tank offering services in the fields of policy law reforms, advocacy and governance. It will also feature Mr. Rhonin Flores, who is the director in-charge of Country Building and Knowledge Management Service, Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center of the National Economic Development Authority.

These experts will explain to you pointby-point changes and comparing the present BOT Law IRR to the new one. The seminar will comprehensively provide clarifications on lacking awareness of mandated approvals, incentives and government undertakings, subsidies, right of way, guarantees, accession and divestiture, charges, eminent approval and implementations, climate change mitigation, on infrastructure projects and many more! Participants will also be provided with updates on the status of the PPP projects proposed and being approved and undertakings.

Interested participants are encouraged to avail of the early bird and group discounts. Seats are limited and pre-registration is required.

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CREDIT & COLLECTION ASSISTANT

Business set to heat up at HVAC/R Philippines Expo

TODAY'S UNPREDICTABLE temperature and weather aside, the Philippine heating, ventilating, Air-Conditioning and Refrigerating industry (HVAC/R) will surely find nothing but sizzling hot business opportunities at the nation's biggest annual trade event, HVAC/R Philippines and Build by 11th edition at the SMX Convention Center on Nov. 7 to 10 bringing together close to 200 of the nation's leading suppliers.

Visitors may now take advantage of the online registration to get on the door for free. Simply log on to www.globalsterling.com and fill in the pre-registration form until 5 pm of Nov. 5. Otherwise, entrance fee is P100.

"The expo has been around for more than a decade and we are very happy with the continued support of our local exhibitors," said Oscar Fernando, event chairman and director of the Philippine Society of Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigerating Engineers Inc. (PSVARE), the event's organizer.

He added: "This year's expo promises to be more exciting and cost because of the exhibits. We are also adding new activities in partnership with the Philippine Green Building Initiative and the United Architects of the Philippines."

The first of these is the "Mr. Roundtable on Sustainable Approach to Design and Construction" on Nov. 8 for which key collaborators with the envisioned bioclimatic Regional Council Hall.

"Sustainability has been the center of our organization's work for several years now. We co-organized the expo and conference's first focus specifically on this and we have also launched a standard on energy efficient building," shared Fernando.

According to Fernando, the roundtable gives local experts a chance to closely discuss new approaches in the field with regional experts. APEC2038 has invited experts from 18 different countries who are set to bring together some of the country's best known architects.

"It would be very interesting to see what results from this discussion," he said.

On Nov. 9, there will be a "Technical Conference on Sustainability," a series of technical seminars that will cover topics such as Architecture and Social Responsibility; Green Sustainability; The Inclusive Design Approach; Social Sustainability in Architecture; Climate Change; Active Pass of the Climate Change Commission, and more. For those interested to attend this forum, you may call 636-4500 or e-mail psvare@pldtdsl.net.

"There is a lot to look forward to from the impressive displays of products and technologies at the exhibit to the stimulating discussions of the seminars. We re-initiation and our committee have wanted a lot of hard and hard work to put everything together and really to make this a show that more constituent to be a part of. So we hope even more people will take this opportunity to join us," said PSVARE president Danilo Dayo.

The HVAC/R Philippines Expo will be held simultaneously with Philconstruct, the country's biggest construction show, and is co-presented by Conspicuous Carnival and Specialty. For inquiries, call (02) 635-8815 or e-mail HVACR@globalsterling.com.ph or info@globalsterling.com.

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Brighter career prospects for Filipinos…?

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELLOR

Ernie O. Gevaña

THE PHILIPPINES moved up 10 notches higher in the recent World Economic Forum (WEF) survey of 144 countries' global competitiveness. We just traded places with Vietnam, from number 75 to number 65. This is a good indication for the Filipinos, especially the three million unemployed and the 15 million underemployed.

The Philippines' economy grew by about 6%, compared with last year's four-half performance. Foreign direct investments during the same period also increased. Government spending in infrastructure is also increasing. Investors seem to be more optimistic over the Philippines as they are about Vietnam and Indonesia. These all translate into brighter career prospects for Filipinos.

Economics of Careers

The formula for employment remains the same. Investment equals employment. But it works that is just one side of the equation. You have to look at both the demand and supply side. As the Philippines rises in global competitiveness, it will become more attractive as a destination for foreign direct investments. But, businessmen need to locate their businesses and create jobs where there are qualified employees – with the right skills, attitudes, and personalities.

The AMCHAM Survey

Last July 3, 2012, the American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore and the US Chamber of Commerce completed gathering data from 350 of 2,500 top executives of US companies to seven ASEAN countries who were invited to join another survey. This is the 2012-2013 ASEAN Business Outlook Survey where Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam participated. Seventy-eight (78.8%) percent of respondents came from Singapore's 11,271 Thailand (67), Thailand (402) and the Philippines (463). Fifty-nine (59%) percent of respondents are responsible for more than one country in the region, while 53% are in the services sector and 20% are in manufacturing.

The survey report was edited by Lynn Oblinas, Head of Communications and Corporate Relations of AMCHAM Singapore, and is available at AMCHAM Philippines, courtesy of Rob Scott, Director of Operations.

Investment prospects

The report said in part, "At least 64% of respondents indicate a positive outlook for the region as a whole. Respondents in Cambodia and Indonesia have the most optimistic outlooks at all countries surveyed, with 100% reporting a positive or very positive outlook, while those in the Philippines are nearly as optimistic (96% positive or very positive). Business executives report strong increases in the level of investment by their company in the ASEAN region. 79% of respondents indicate that their company's level of trade and investment in the ASEAN region has increased in the past two years. One quarter of the respondents say it has increased significantly, while 17% say it has stayed about the same, and 3% say it has decreased. 81% of survey respondents report their companies' trade and investment to increase in the ASEAN region over the next five years. 27% expect the level to increase significantly."

When asked where their companies would likely locate their business expansion, respondent executives cited Vietnam as the most popular destination, with 25% of responses. Thailand had 13%, Singapore 9%, the Philippines 7%, Indonesia and Myanmar 6% apiece.

Strengths and weaknesses

Across the region, laws and regulations and corruption are the major challenges, except in Singapore where business freedom laws and lack of corruption are major strengths. Indonesia (87%), Cambodia (81%), Vietnam (77%) and the Philippines (73%) rank lowest in terms of corruption issues. Hurray for the Philippines – the good news is that the bad news is that we are the most corrupt is not entirely true!

Personal security of the expats, sentiment towards the US, and stable government and political system emerge as strengths in the region, while Thailand with a negative (-60% rating) are considered major downsides of the ASEAN region.

The report went on, "The majority of respondents (80%) predict the economy in their companies' ASEAN overall workforce. Only 4% expect a decrease, while 16% expect it to remain about the same." Among the optimistic executives, those in the Philippines ranked highest (75%), followed by Cambodia (69%), Thailand (50%), and Singapore, and Indonesia (non-US%-shares).

Executives were asked, "Are your expatriate employees personally satisfied with their assignments in your respective locations?" Your guess is right – it's more fun in the Philippines. America's executives were most satisfied with locations in the Philippines (100%), Malaysia (100%), Singapore (97%), and Thailand (96%). Does things about in Thailand win over Pattaya Beach?

Expansion location

The good news is that many of those companies that participated to the survey are in an expansion mode. The bad news is that the Philippines is hardly in their radar. Consider this:

Cambodia looks at Myanmar (33%), Cambodia (27%), Vietnam (27%), and Laos (13%) as target countries for business expansion. Indonesia looks at Myanmar (29%), Indonesia (29%), Myanmar (4%) and Singapore (4%). Malaysia is looking at Vietnam (54%), Thailand (15%), Cambodia (12%), Malaysia (12%) and the Philippines (8%). The American executives in the Philippines want their expansion in the Philippines (40%), Vietnam (19%), Singapore (14%), Thailand (13%), Myanmar (8%) and Indonesia (5%). Singapore has its sight on Vietnam (63%), Singapore (14%), Thailand (13%), Myanmar (8%), Indonesia (2%) and Malaysia (2%).

The Vietnam puzzle

Based on the AMCHAM survey, the Philippines has a better ranking than Vietnam. This, however, does not match the personal reaction I've had with many Filipinos. Many still have foreign direct investments more than the Philippines.

According to American executives surveyed, Vietnam ranks higher than Philippines in corruption (77%), unfavorable laws and regulations (54%), lack of infrastructure (37%) and lack of ease in moving products through customs (32%). Compare that with rankings in the Philippines – corruption (73%), unfavorable laws and regulations (63%), lack of infrastructure (40%) and lack of ease in moving products through customs (40%). On paper, the Philippines has less corruption, less unfavorable laws and regulations and more infrastructure than Vietnam.

Let us check out the perceptions of both countries. On a personal travels to the US, the Philippines has 63% saying versus Vietnam's 68%. On availability of key talent, Vietnam's edge gave the Philippines 73% and Vietnam 55%. In reality, however, the Philippines has higher minimum wages than Vietnam. The Philippines has either advantage or parity in terms of trained personnel or effective management (70%) and lower office lease rates (62%). Vietnam's other advantages are personal security (79%) and stable government and political system (62%).

So what gives? Sometimes global competitiveness could be in the eye of the beholder. Just like beauty and contact lenses.

Indonesia is on the threshold of becoming a trillion dollar economy. Trade Minister Gita is not resting. He wants the 2003 Labor Code revised to remove protectionist provisions. Indonesia is advertising and positioning itself as an investment destination. Malaysia is still ready, willing and able. What of Thailand? Thailand is still Amazing Thailand. These symbols remain the same, but the countries have changed for the better.

In the Philippines, are we experiencing a symbol of change, or simply a change of symbol?

In the next issue, I shall dwell more on the supply side of the career equation. Johnathan today and in the hours should also learn to ask new questions. In the past, we asked, "What jobs will be available when I graduate with my set of skills?" Today's youth should be asking this question before they even choose what courses to take. "What skills should I learn to qualify for jobs that will abound in the future?"

I asked a sampling of today's students (the future workforce), "Why did you choose your course?" Unfortunately, most of them replied, "My parents did!" or "Peer pressure."

Ernie serves in various capacities at the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM), Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP) and the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) and other professional and non-governmental organizations (NGO's). In 2011, he was given recognition as Diplomate in People Management (DPM) and voted "Best Management Columnist of the Year" (for his Monday Inquirer column) by PMAP, which he was President in 1999. He is the President and CEO of IC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. His two books, "Life's Big Lessons" and "Life's Big Lessons 2" are available at book stores. He can be reached at ernie_ocilla@yahoo.com

Pat Castillo: A success story

Castillo

AMBO PATRICIA CASTILLO AND style. Patricia S. Castillo made it far in the music and fashion industry. Adding posts in management, production and consultancy particular by in label and entertainment companies such as Viva Music Group, Ball Dry Entertainment, and John Robert Powers Manila. She is a much sought-after life coach to CEO's and other senior management executives. Pat-ten Castillo is a member of the International Coaching Council, Association of Image Consultants International, Association for Conflict Resolution, and the prestigious Philippines Institute for Training and Development.

This is how the a described in a web page of a well-known Manila Institute Training & Development company.

How did she get there?

For those who grew up in Manila during the 70's, Pat Castillo was known as the cousin of the Circus Band, who sang Band Me At The Morning when the band was on campus tour, dressed in sexy elephant pants, or her pants with long tunic coats, or garbed in backless, see-through blouses that didn't leave much to one's imagination.

"Singing was something that I would rather do than have conversations," she says. "If I wasn't singing on Dyic Pusoy or Titik Puti's time, I was rehearsing one for my papa who would have her stay around vacation to the province. I guess I was already a handful at the age of 3!

By the time I was in school I discovered art. I used to draw a lot, my love of doodling, and I would copy the clothes found on the cover of Barbara Cartland novels as well as those designer clothes found on magazines. I wanted to imitate myself in having a model like Twiggy or Jean Shrimpton, wear clothes by Schiaparelli and be photographed by Avedon. What a dream! Sadly, I was overweight, while my sisters kept growing taller! My clothes never did a size for Santa Barbara and I used to accompany her during her modelling days. Observing the lights, the choreographies and the production staff, I realized that being on stage would be fun so I decided that I will be courageous.

When I joined the Circus Band, I saw the opportunity of dressing up while enjoying the singing part. I decided to go to Ms. Lourdes Lopez, a fashion legend, who at the time was sewing clothes for friends. We both found an experiment with me as her Twig! Those were fun days!

And then of course, I went on my own after Circus, joined Bang Bonoan as the Hyatt's Gallery Bar, danced this time in Mocha Lounge, at night, and attended choreography at its home dubbed, starred gowns by Rhea Alfaro.

It is in these I was managed by the late Wenged Tracy did I receive how much importance image and appearance was for a performer. It was Wenged who encouraged me to go on exercise, to correct, giving me the opportunity to join the Miss Philippines, and winning 2nd place in the pre-pageant competitions.

It was also during this time and the succeeding years of my life that I realized that I have to be dressed by Manila Fames who today I still collaborate with, when assisting executives or businessmen discover their own image."

These days, one will find by still performing on a "stage", where she is most comfortable, doing seminars and workshops for various organizations on subjects such as Image, Attitude, Poise, Dress Sense. She has turned down solicitation scripts to endorse products, preferring only corporate image. She refuses to be pinned down into a "look" to the end.

Outside of her speaking engagements, Pat Castillo develops for corporate and individual clients needing the soft skills of Personal Development that focuses on the "people skills" of Communication, Etiquette and Competency. She is associated with several workshop providers such as Debra Reyes Management Consultancy whose forte is in Leadership and Communication Proficiency , Management Concepts whose focus is on Team Management, Lamel Multi whose focus is on Media Personal Presentation and Media Skills, and Business Consulting Services whose focus is on Branded Persona. She still accepts dances from John Robert Powers Manila where she is going more attention to other workshop providers.

"After my stint as Miss Labor Philippines, my friend Marlen Padilla became event manager and owner of Utilities invited me to be one of the trainers for John Robert Powers Manila. Whether, at that time, was the school's all women, walking coach in Makati Business district of Ayala Avenue's as well as International Marketing Seminars.

"During my stint with the school, I discovered the joy of teaching and mentoring, as much as that I even assisted the school in organizing the curriculum in order to meet the needs of an ever changing market. I've author a book published by John Robert Powers International and released in 2007." At least best-seller when released, Michael Jackson's Autobiography Global Living is still available at all National Bookstores.

Driven and motivated by the need to be better than best, Pat-ten Castillo is always on the manner today more she says the same reminds more responsive took workshops on Make-up & Hair Design at Innovative Concepts, Etc. in Sydney, Australia, Franzli Personal cabinet in Manila, Executive Coaching in Sydney Australia at the Behavioral Coaching Institute under Dr. Michael Neenan, School of Self-Development Coaching under Alan Sutler of Non-Belief Coaching.

Needing to deepen her understanding of Coaching, Dr. Ricardo Tan, Psychologist, Author and under Professor Anabelle Abaya and became a Certified Workbrator as well as Certified Trainer for Conflict Resolution, the school's main objective of self-understanding behaviour by being recognized by the Philippine Psychological Corp. as an MBTI Certified Professional.

Pat-ten is a member of ACI (Association of Image Consultants International), PDTI (Philippine Society for Training & Development) and Association of Conflict Resolution, Phil.

For comments & inquiries, you can write to pjc165@gmail.com!

Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34a

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength."

Total love

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SOB, DD

To the question of what is the first and greatest commandment, Jesus declared that it is total love of God with one's heart, soul, and mind, and with all of one's strength. The question is of course a very good one. It is also a very practical one. Knowing what is important is crucial to the success of one life's journey in the world. Failing to love and work by this fundamental rule of life would mean total failure. While living and working with a total love for God would turn for us the utmost reward of happiness with Him.

Putting all of these together would make the worker reach not less the just of his co-workers. His dedication to his work, his care for everything related to his job, and his human and personal touch in the tasks he performs would mean not as a result of his love for his work and for the Giver of his life and work. Working with all of one's "soul" would make him do his job like he were working always, plus the understanding of the spiritual meaning of the sacrifices and sufferings borne and endured in work such as work's redemptive meaning and value, its being a worship to God, its being a concrete expression of one's faith and love for God. Doing one's job with one's "mind" would give the worker competency that can always go with simply the salary he owns. The worker also wants to grow out of his intellectual or mental ability so his job in order to perform it with excellence. The "intelligent" worker would not just stay below par and other result-prone and breathe, but would also enjoy the satisfaction of learning and feeling that he is growing towards full human maturity.

What I state above are only few of the many possible situations and horizons in our daily work that could provide us with concrete opportunities of loving God with a total love. The worker then should intentionally reflect on the challenging as well as joyful life he passes in his love for God, because this is the first and greatest value in our life and work.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

To know is to love

By Teresa R. Turay, OCDS

So workplace is not enough to ever be free of problematic or difficult situations. At least half of our salary I'd say comes from overcoming such problems and difficulties. Knowing this, we do not refuse them. Rather we learn to accept them as part of our journey in life and one that could give us fresh eyes with which to look at things. A look at today's gospel could help. If we only knew what loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength would make our workplace a little heaven, towards, we would definitely give it a try. But loving God with all our being calls for knowing God, too. So how can we know God as we can know Jesus? Many of us love God as provider and father figure; then even at the workplace are like to keep things like religious statues or pictures of our favorite saints to remind us of God in time of need.

While it is good to know God as such, and the children try to be good to make it find favor with Him, there are many other ways by which we can come to know God, and all of these can see us to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We can know God in truth, as we read scriptures and ponder upon the life of these great men of wisdom. Jesus' words "Should known to us, too, through the mystery of the Sacraments for instance, entice how a good meditation and consecration gives you a feeling of freedom and lightness? God may also be known in beauty even an atheist can be moved by a breathtaking sunset, and thought for many not admit it, especially such beauty speaks to us of God. We can also know God in our basic choices. Those moments of grace when we, for instance, receive our pain, marvel over a certain experience, or overflow with gratitude as we feel His desire to be one with us. So many ways!

Knowing God, we cannot but love God with all that we are, and carrying that love of God with us to the workplace how else we go wrong?

Find Your Future

Work at marie france

Be part of an organization that highly values it's employees. With continuous trainings, limitless incentives, a fun work environment, and colleagues, what more can you ask for?

In our company, we make sure that YOU are fulfilled.

OPERATIONS ASSOCIATE

Requirements:

- Female, 27-35 years old.
- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering from a reputable university.
- With at least 3 years of experience in Purchasing, Inventory Control, Planning and Analysis, and Systems and Procedures Development.
- With proven planning and leadership skills.
- Possesses strong analytical skills.
- Above average oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to deal with people across all levels of the organization.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

Requirements:

- Female, 22-26 years old.
- Graduate of any four-year business-related course.
- With at least six (6) months work experience handling administrative jobs related to building and construction materials.
- Can communicate across all levels of the organization.
- Has good communication skills and a pleasing personality.

ACCOUNT SUPERVISOR

Requirements:

- Female, between 29 to 35 years old.
- At least a Bachelor's degree in Communication, Advertising or Marketing from a reputable college/university.
- Must have at least 4-5 years of solid experience as Senior Account Executive/Account Manager from an Advertising agency or its equivalent.
- With proven creativity and business strategy acumen.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills (verbal and written).
- Proven skills in interfacing with all levels of executives, talent and media.
- Ability to work independently and manage multiple projects at a time.
- Superior organizational skills and attention to details.
- Has passion for BEAUTY.

ROBINSONS
PROPERTIES MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

NOW HIRING

JOB VACANCIES

ACCOUNT MANAGERS

Articulate, outgoing, and resourceful young individuals that wish to enter into a real estate career.

- College graduate
- Has wide social network of potential buyers
- Extroverted and resourceful
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

SALES MANAGERS

Driven young professionals with experience in real estate and in management positions are invited to apply for this position.

- College graduate
- With at least 2 years experience handling a team in supervisory role
- Able to mentor subordinates and monitor their activities and performance
- Real estate broker's license is an advantage

OTHER JOB VACANCIES

Project Presentation Specialists
Marketing Officer
Sales Recruitment & Training Assistant
International Marketing Officer
International Marketing Assistant
Network Distribution Assistant

Email your resumé to
sales.career@robinsonsland.com

Recruitment Hotline:
397-0101 local 770/196

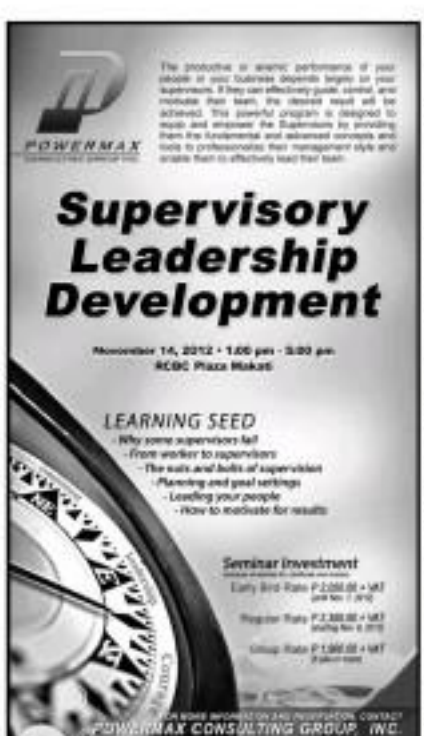
ROBINSONS RESIDENCES

ROBINSONS LUFORIA

COMMISSION ON AUDIT
PUBLICATION OF VACANT POSITIONS
As of October 17, 2012

POSITION TITLE:	DIRECTOR III
SALARY GRADE:	26
ITEM NUMBER/S:	CO-OSG-[illegible]
QUALIFICATIONS:	Master's Degree; five (5) years of supervisory experience; Career Executive Development Program (CEDP) training; Eligibility appropriate to occupational positions; Appropriate CSC RSIM, IRAM, IRA and IRA positions' corresponding positions (if performance)
JOB DESCRIPTION:	The Director for Public Information Office is the Chairperson and the Commission Proper's delegate of communications, where primarily purpose is according a positive perception of the Office of the Commission to public as well as to the Commission. The IRA Director will [illegible] for promoting, overseeing and producing COA's positions on all [illegible] issues of public interest. The IRA Director will [illegible] and manage public relations in a way that [illegible] and [illegible] the Commission's [illegible] and [illegible] the COA's principal and [illegible] responsible for the following areas: • Develop communications • Develop and manage branding and publicity • Public relations and media management • Internal communications • Information dissemination • Stakeholder management [illegible] the IRA Director will [illegible] the [illegible] communications plan, develop a crisis plan and response mechanisms, and ensure the PIO's efficient operations. [illegible] community [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

JOBMARKET Updates



Your choice, your adobo

BIBALIW, THE country's pioneer green tea food line, been serving adobo since 1996. Bibaliw's Pinoy Adobo is a combination of chicken and pork, marinated to perfection with soy sauce, crushed garlic and ground pepper. It is served with sumptuous amounts of rice topped with adobo sauce and paired with salted egg and tomato. The traditional became best packaging of Bibaliw makes this dish even more delicious and enjoyable.

Now, the hugely popular Pinoy Adobo comes in 2 other variants: the All-Chicken Pinoy Adobo, and the All-Pork Pinoy Adobo.

The All-Chicken Pinoy Adobo made with choice chicken pieces is the low fat alternative suited for the health conscious or those just craving for pure chicken goodness.

Those who can't get enough of the succulent pork adobo can forgo chicken, for a change and have All-Pork adobo. The juicy pork slices slowly simmered in a mix of soy sauce and vinegar is perfect for those looking for the salty grassy, rich adobo taste.

"After over 15 years, we see that people love more a choice; either all chicken or all pork," says Diamond Jean Rosales, CEO and President. "But the Classic Pinoy Adobo will still be offered."

When you have of "Pinoy time", adobo is usually the first that comes to mind. And Bibaliw, to entertain your Pinoy adobo lovers to try their adobo variations. To get a taste of this Pinoy staple, visit one of Bibaliw's branches near you or call their delivery hotline at 467-8888.

HAFEE TOOTHPASTE FOUNDER CITED BY CONGRESS

Because of his commendable work in helping uplift the lives of Filipinos with disabilities, Dr. Cecilio Pedro, founder and President of Lamoiyan Corp. and Chairman of the Deaf Evangelism Alliance Foundation (DEAF, INC.), was cited recently by the 15th Congress of the House of Representatives. In House Resolution No. 3621 filed by Rep. Winnie "Winnie" Castelo, Congressman of the 2nd District of Quezon City with the Committee on Social Services, the resolution cited Dr. Pedro for his "Exemplary Accomplishments in the Promotion of the Welfare of the Deaf Community in promoting the welfare of the deaf through employment, education and other learning modalities to give them a chance of life like normal educated people." Dr. Pedro has long been a champion of Filipino pride through his products and his advocacy to help people with physical disabilities particularly the deaf. By March 2013, Lamoiyan will celebrate 25 years of dedicated service and look forward to continue uplifting the lives of Filipinos in the coming years. Photo shows (from left), ACT Partylist Rep. Antonio Tinio, Rep. Imelda Marcos, Chairman Committee on Social Service Rep. Amuro Bates, Dr. Pedro, COOP-NATCO Partylist Rep. Cresindo Paez and Cavite Rep. Lani Mercado Revilla during the minute meeting at the House of Representatives.

BUHAY OFW marks its First Anniversary

BUHAY OFW HOSTED IN NO LESS than PMFC Bed Talk Show Host wonder and a respected civic servant Ms. Marissa del Mar para celebrated its first (1st) anniversary at the Eliptica Activity Center last October 15-16, 2011.

A two (2) day event filled with music, fun and prizes. The event was very well attended by OFW's and their families and has been a very good venue geared by different personalities from government and non-government sectors who fully supported BUHAY OFW TV Show and shared their knowledge and other updates concerning OFWs like the Rights, Obligations and Benefits of OFWs thru different government agencies, Emergency and Assistance Programs, and the common problems as the most time legal processes that OFWs undergo.

Aside from the exhibits and the birthday celebration of the show's host- Ms Marissa del Mar, another highlight of the celebration is the launch "Mr. & Ms. Citizens of the World" a competition open to all active and former OFW, of any gender, 18 years old and above who have pleasing personalities and good moral character all across the globe who entered on their stories of bravery and grace under pressure. Categorized accordingly, it is an experience-based competition, this candidates pass, shares and real life success stories of our OFWs. Pre-screening will be on December 6 at the Metrocki, Bacheeli, Prince Jacksie cash, computer showcase, pangbo bahayan and and-an's store packages, vacation trips, scholarship grants, among many others.

Exhibitors are OFW-centric companies, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Philippine Overseas Employment Agency (POEA), National Real Estate Association, Pag-Ibig Fund, San Miguel Corporation, E. Saraza, Inc., I Store, Inc., Philippine Veterans Bank, Mainland Development Corporation, McDonalds, DMCI Homes, Inc., Ayala Land, Inc., Megaworld Corporation, Avida Land Corporation, Suntrust Properties, Century Properties, 2Go Travel, Magsaysay Philippines and Davies Paint.

Buhay OFW is aired over Aksyon TV every Saturday at 10:00 to 11:00 pm. It can now be viewed in countries like Guam, Italy, UK, United Arab Emirates, USA and now in South America. For more information about Buhay OFW and/or the Search for Mr & Ms Citizens of the World, kindly check the website via this link: www.mrmsaddress.com

PFMP Philippine-Australia Public Financial Management Program

Australian AID

OFFICE ASSISTANT (PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE)

- Based in the Department of Budget and Management (Manila, Philippines)
- 1 year contract

Philippine-Australia Public Financial Management Program (PFMP) is a core initiative of the Governments of Australia and the Philippines to improve the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the use of public funds in the Philippines to enable better service delivery. The program directly supports the national government's requirement for comprehensive PFM reform agenda that is laid out in the Philippine Public Financial Management Reform Roadmap, 'Towards Improved Accountability and Transparency'. The Philippine Government's Program Management Office (PMO), located in the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), is responsible for the overall management, monitoring and evaluation of the national government PFM reforms. The PMO is directly accountable to the Inter-agency Public Financial Management Committee that sets the policy and overall direction of the PFM reforms program.

Coffey International, the Service Provider of PFMP, is recruiting a Project Support Officer. The Project Support Officer will provide project management, administrative, logistics and communication support to the PMO Director and Deputy Director in order to enable the PMO's objectives and deliver its core functions in an efficient, effective and economical manner. The Project Support Officer will coordinate with the PMO Director/Deputy Director and will work closely with other PMO personnel and PFM advisers/technical consultants in a wide range of tasks and activities.

The role reports directly to the PMO Director and Deputy Director and works closely with the PMO personnel and PFM advisers/consultants.

The successful applicant should have strong knowledge and experience in working in a project implementation environment, preferably supporting reforms in the Philippines. He/She should have program management experience and should have good knowledge of office administrative procedures and guidelines. As Project Support Officer, he/she should also have strong networking experience, excellent communication skills and be able to work in a team environment. He/She should have a clear understanding and deep appreciation of development coordination. The Project Support Officer should have good communications and logistics support experience preferably in foreign assisted projects.

Applications close 5:00pm Friday 16 November 2012.

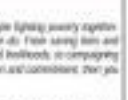
This position is open to all Filipinos. Women are encouraged to apply.

For a detailed job and person specification and essential application procedures, please visit **www.ahrse.ph/pfmp** or **www.careers.coffey.com** quoting reference number **COFF-2083**.

For more information contact the PFMP Recruitment Office via email, jbarugo@ahrse.ph

Due to the volume of applications received, only short-listed candidates will be notified.

You can change things for the better.



Oxfam is a vibrant global movement of passionate, dedicated people fighting poverty together. Doing amazing work, together. People power drives everything we do. From saving lives and developing projects that put poor people in charge of their lives and livelihoods, to campaigning for change that lasts. That's Oxfam in action. If you share this vision and commitment, then you are exactly who we are looking for:

Logistics Assistant (fixed term until 15 November 2013, based in Quezon City) – He/she will work closely with the Administrative Officer in providing administrative and logistics support to the country programme and field offices. Key responsibilities of the post include, but not limited to, booking accommodation and training venues, ambulance in preparing payment requests; monitoring and inventory of fixed assets and office supplies, in-charge of office maintenance. S/he will lead also in procurement and purchasing.

At Oxfam, we believe that every aspect of our work can lead to a positive outcome, so make the most of this considerable challenge by sending an application letter (short), stating the position you are applying for and your Curriculum Vitae (CV) **to HR.ksm@oxfam.org.ph**

We particularly welcome application from women and people of indigenous backgrounds.

Closing date for receiving applications: 13 November 2012

Oxfam works with others to overcome poverty and suffering.

Oxfam

looking for a job?

email resume to workingpeople@inquirer.com.ph

or

log on to jobmarketonline.com.ph

JOIN THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE

Be all you can be in your country, the AIR FORCE way

BE A CANDIDATE SOLDIER (CS)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Male or Female natural born citizen of the Republic of the Philippines
- Educational Attainment: at least 72 college units
- **Height:** 57" for both male and female (Indigenous People / Mandaya should submit certification from National Commission on Indigenous Peoples Iligan Office)
- **Age:** Not less than 18 yrs and not is this older than 23 yrs upon admission for training (Born from 30 April 1989 to 30 April 1994)
- Single and has no legal obligation in support a child or children
- Physically and mentally fit for military training
- With good moral character

INITIAL REQUIREMENTS:

(MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE DAY OF EXAMINATION)

- Fully Accomplished Application Form
- Authenticated Photocopy of NSO Birth Certificate
- Authenticated Photocopy of Transcript of Records
- Two (2) pcs 2x2 Picture with White Background

NOTE:

- Applicants will be entertained on a first come-first-serve basis on the scheduled date of examination
- Applicants must wear white T-shirt and blue jeans when applying and during the conduct of examination.

DATE & EXAMINATION AREAS:

LUZON

23 Nov '12	- AETC Fernando Air Base, Lipa City, Batangas
24 Nov '12	- 7101 1, Lumban Airport, Baguio City
24 Nov '12	- 7205 ACRS, San Fernando City, La Union
28 Nov '12	- 7201 0, Legaspi Airport, Legaspi City
28 Nov '12	- 7201 1, Cauayan Airport, Cauayan, Isabela
01 Dec '12	- 7204 ABW, Antonio Bautista Air Base, Palawan
04 Dec '12	- 7APNAC, Col Jesus Villamor Air Base, Pasay City

VISAYAS

01 Dec '12	- 220th ABW, MBDAB Lapu-Lapu City
01 Dec '12	- 7200 0, Dingle, Iloilo City

MINDANAO

24 Nov '12	- 220th ABW, 5YAB, Zamboanga City
24 Nov '12	- 7202 10, Lumbia Airport, Cagayan De Oro City
28 Nov '12	- 7202 12, Sasa Urdo Annex, Awang, Davao City
28 Nov '12	- 7202 11, Sasa, Davao City

GRADUATES OF FOLLOWING COURSES ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED:

1. Aviation Related Courses
2. Computer Related Courses
   a. Programmer
   b. Technician
3. Accounting Courses
4. Engineering Courses
   a. CHE
   b. CMENGR
   c. Structural
   d. Communication and Electronics
5. Legal & Law Enforcement Courses
6. Medical Related Courses
7. Technical Skills Related Courses

For more information, visit the nearest PAF Unit in your locality or visit our website at **www.paf.mil.ph** or use mail/text or call tel. **(02)852-7565.**

POWER UP, PAF

Wings of peace, defenders of freedom...

JICA PHILIPPINES
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), an active development partner of the Philippine Government, is now seeking the services of dynamic and competent staff with a high degree of initiative to fill the position of:

PROGRAM OFFICER (Position Code: PO)

PO shall be responsible in performing a full range of assignment (such as administrative, logistics and technical support, as well as, coordinating with government offices or related agencies in the implementation of programs) under the supervision of JICA PR-Filipinas. PO will be working with Japanese and Filipino counterparts at JICA Philippines to liaise with JICA HQ, development partners and Philippine Government counterparts.

Said position will be assigned to any section at the discretion of Management.

Qualifications:

- Age: 23-26 years old
- Graduate of a Bachelor's degree, preferably in Social Science, Public Policy, Economics, Management, Public Finance, Public Administration or other related courses
- With at least 2 – 3 years relevant working experience; experience in the international development field is an advantage
- Strong interest and good knowledge of development issues would be a requirement
- Good interpersonal skills, adaptable and willing to learn in the multi-cultural environment
- Excellent oral and written communications skills in English
- Proficient computer skills with sound knowledge of common word-processing, spreadsheets and graphics software used in JICA (such as Excel, Word, Powerpoint &/or Filemaker, Lotus Notes, etc.)

* Graduates of applicants shall not be limited to the aforementioned qualifications which may consider other relevant work experience and combination of said academic.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is an agency of the Government of Japan responsible for implementing the technical cooperation, grant aid and part loan programs of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA). For more information, refer to JICA's homepage: (http://www.jica.go.jp/english/) and http://www.jica.go.jp/philippines/english/index.html.

The recruitment will be handled by the Taiwanese Technology Transfer & Industrial Consultancy, Inc (TTT-ICI). All applicants **must** indicate the position code in the subject line and submit their application with photo, curriculum vitae, **two** (2) **reference** letters, on or before 16 November 2012 to TTT-ICI at Unit K 3rd Floor, Westgate Tower Investment Drive, Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City or e-mail to tttici@pldtdsl.net.

Only short-listed applicants will be notified.

Break free!

HR selling, BD quotas, IO troubleshooting!

Want CSR real, and epic

kgb_Philippines

We don't just offer jobs, we change lives

JOB Market

CAREER EXPO 2012

NOVEMBER 7 & 8
10AM - 6PM

GLORIETTA ACTIVITY CENTER

FREE ADMISSION

Where the Brightest People Find the Best Jobs. Log on to www.jobmarketonline.com

COMPANY PROFILES

ACCENTURE

Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, with more than 246,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries. Combining unparalleled experience, comprehensive capabilities across all industries and business functions, and extensive research on the world's most successful companies, Accenture collaborates with clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. The company generated net revenues of US$25.5 billion for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, 2011. Accenture's "high performance business" strategy builds on its experience in consulting, technology and outsourcing to help clients achieve their goals. Accenture can create sustainable value for their customers and shareholders. Using its industry knowledge, Accenture delivers innovative and cost-effective services—enabling acquisitive and transformative capabilities—for end-to-end solutions in new technology trends and develops solutions to help clients succeed in the world.

ANCHOR LAND HOLDINGS, INC.

Anchor Land Holdings, Inc. is one of the fastest growing property companies in the country and is currently developing 10 projects in the Philippines. Established in 2010, the company has been consistently delivering on its commitments and business model to its customers and investor partners. Listed in the Philippine Stock Exchange, the company was built to be capitalized for sustainable growth. Anchor Land Holdings is continuously growing and needs dynamic and motivated people to grow with them in their next expansion level.

AXA PHILIPPINES

AXA Philippines is redefining the market by delivering simple, relevant and valuable insurance solutions that better meet the financial needs of its customers on mobile services to adjust to their changing preferences. The award winning AXA Philippines is also recognized for its innovative use of telecommunications and introduction of variable life products to the market. Currently, AXA Philippines is offering life insurance products to almost 200,000 individuals through its group and individual life insurance products.

As the pioneer in the market, AXA Philippines offers the most extensive region-variable life protection that provide clients the better financial security and improved returns. AXA Philippines has a distribution network of more than 50 branches, 2,000 agents and bancassurance partnerships with 4 banks and operations in 10 countries with over 18,000 employees.

FARIDAY LAND, INC.

A proud member of the Metrobank Group, Filinvest Land, Inc. is the master developer and manager of quality residential and commercial properties.

Established on July 23, 1975, Filinvest Land, Inc. prides itself for over 35 years of experience in property development. Filinvest Land, Inc. is known for its mission to create sustainable communities that are greenbelts in scope and is guided by its vision to become the dominant real estate developer most admired for its world-class development projects and excellent customer service highly regarded by its peers and partners. It is an investee of choice known for its highly capable team and outstanding shareholder returns. Filinvest Land, Inc. practices good governance and corporate social responsibility.

FORTE GRAND PHILIPPINES

The Forte Grand Philippines (Forte Grand), a direct marketing services company, has provided clients of the world's most recognized and developing brands with superior marketing solutions. We have come to count on the company's unique integrated services, multichannel approach, and deep roots in achieving direct marketing for multi-nationally, regionally and locally focused campaigns.

Forte Grand, which was started as a newspaper insertion company, began a series of strategic acquisitions that created the company we know today. Since the mid-1990's, Forte Grand has made a number of core acquisitions that added creative services, call center and fulfillment services, digital and email marketing, print and mail services, data and strategic research services. It continues to grow and enhance its services today. It is on the cutting edge of technology, continuously looking for new and innovative ways to add value to its clients' direct and digital mail and marketing for its clients.

HYUNDAI ASIA RESOURCES INC.

Assistant Vice President (Administrative of Hyundai Asia Resources Inc. (Hyundai Motor Company (HMC), Seoul, Korea, in August 2007. Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. or HARI was established to support the Philippine automotive industry today.

At Hyundai Asia Resources Inc. member's individuality is understood with a dynamic working environment that nurtures each one's competency and talent to the maximum and they will rewarding salary (possible). Hyundai believes that each one is already qualified in a unique way and by working as a team, the company is qualified also.

Interested qualified applicants for these to allow to better the system's way of life through automobiles that celebrate the uniqueness of humanity, individuality, and individuality that can exciting journey called life.

INTELLIGENT TECHNOLOGIES PHILIPPINES INC.

Intelligent Technologies Philippines Inc. (ITI) is a part of Intelligent Technologies Phil. Inc., a Bilkal Kilby global enterprise headquartered in India. Intelligent Technologies Limited is one of the leading engineering companies in India.

ITI is a leading BPO & IT Services provider committed to delivering innovation and business excellence across the entire spectrum of the outsourcing value chain. Headquartered in Chennai, India, Intelligent Technologies Limited is one of the fastest emerged Six Month Top 3 Texas Technology Solutions providers. The company has been recognized for its Quality Management efforts, Geographical and Maintenance, Call Center and Back Office Services, Consulting Services and Business Process while its Global Industry certification.

ITI employs over 4000 skilled people in Bangalore and maintains state-of-the-art delivery centers. ITI through its association solutions and services, delivers a unique value proposition in terms of accuracy, quality, flexibility and cost savings. It is large number of satisfied, loyal management employees across a globe.

INFORMATICS

Informatics Philippines, established in 1996, is a leading provider of comprehensive, integrated and quality training and education in information and Communications Technology. At Philippine Informatics has more than its greatest operating assets—its people. Our employees—who have an Associate Productivity, Business Solutions and Higher Education from undergraduate to postgraduate degree completions.

The company has been winning awards including the 1,000 Asia Pacific Excellence Awards (2007) the National Convention Award (2007, 2008) and PCEC and the National Convention Award (2008) as well as Outstanding Computer School. The Company was also accredited to the Star of Some award for winning the International Master Franchise of the Year Award (Global Excellence Awards) and Franchise of the Year (2007-2012) by the Department of Trade and Industry and by the Philippine Franchise Association. Currently, Informatics has many more awards including the Singapore Brand Awards in 2007 & 2008.

INTERNATIONAL SPECIALTY CONCEPTS INC. - ASIA

ISPA is one of the largest international fashion companies. It belongs to Fashion, one of the world's largest fashion groups.

International Specialty Concepts Inc. a member of Fashion's Group of Companies, distributes fragrances (ISPA) of the Philippines. ISPA having more than 10,000 stores in 50 countries with the best locations in the largest shopping malls with the distinction of the fastest growing.

The company is looking for highly committed young professionals who desire fashion and fashion accessories and who desire fashion specialties as the challenge of working in a high-energy business, willing to share its vision of creating a more concept in fashion and customer service.

JOHN CLEMENTS

John Clements Consultants, Inc. was founded in November 1974 by the late Mr. Lourdes J. Rodriguez. An accredited Corporate Executive and CPA with an MBA from Harvard Business School, together with Mr. John M. Clements, a post-graduate Psychology Consultant in Australia. During that time Lourdes Rodriguez was the pioneering business and blogging at the John Clements Consultants Group. As an industry pioneer, John Clements Consultants has been a leader in investment banking, financial services to the consumers, small business and commercial banking, financial transaction processing, asset management and private equity.

In 2010, JPMorgan Chase established a Global Service Center in Manila which continues to expand its scope of services. The center provides support for the firm's corporate and investment bank, the Asia Pacific Retail Banking based retail and wholesale businesses.

JOHN PHILIPPINES

Just discovering INTERNS since founded in 1961 by Robert G. Prentice and Jean Edmund, Investment Interns Foundation, Inc. (IIFI) is the first to offer its clients the opportunity to invest in the stocks of the companies where they worked that their monthly salaries grow in their company's assistance with investment decisions. Interns are encouraged to invest in companies with which they are familiar, and to invest in companies that they believe will grow in the future. Interns are encouraged to invest in companies that they believe will grow in the future. Interns are encouraged to invest in companies that they believe will grow in the future.

Knowing more and more people that information with people in mind and more people that information with people in mind and more people that information with people in mind

INQUIRER Sunday NATIONAL
CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P75 per line
DEADLINES
11:00 noon
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2012

APOLOGY

To the Management and Staff of
ESS Manufacturing Co., Inc. ("EMCI"):

We offer our sincerest apologies to the Management and employees of EMCI for any inconvenience or damage caused by our unnecessary disclosure of company information. We recognize that our actions were prejudicial to the best interest of the company, where we were once employed.

As an initial step towards reconciliation and to end all disputes between us and EMCI, we reiterate our sincerest apologies for any damage caused to EMCI.

Christian Castañeda

Martin Leonardo Caculitan

ISUZU

ISUZU PHILIPPINES CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID

1. Isuzu Philippines Corporation (IPC) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for four (four) of assorted brand new vehicles as listed in "Annex A" hereof ("Bid Offer").

Lot No.	Item No.	Vehicle Model / Unit	Quantity	Color
1	1		1 unit	
	2		1 unit	
	3		1 unit	
	4		1 unit	
2	1		1 unit	
	2		1 unit	
	3		1 unit	
	4		1 unit	
3	1		1 unit	
	2		1 unit	
	3		1 unit	
	4		1 unit	
4	1		1 unit	
	2		1 unit	
	3		1 unit	
	4		1 unit	

2. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inquire advised for sale during the pre-bid conference set on November 16, 2012 (Friday), exactly at 10:00 AM, at Isuzu Philippines Corporation, 134 Technology Avenue, Laguna Technopark, Binan, Laguna. Interested parties must be at the venue at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to call time or latecomers will be prohibited from joining the conference.

3. Only those who attended the pre-bid conference and complied with all the procedural requirements will be eligible in submitting bids.

4. Bids must be delivered to IPC on or before 1:00 PM on November 30, 2012 and must be accompanied by a Bid Bond / Security of Php 500,000.00. Bid bonds must be in the form of manager's check payable to Isuzu Philippines Corporation.

5. Bid opening will be on November 30, 2012 at 1:00 PM, in the presence of the IPC Vice President / Assistant Vice President of Administration, General Administration Department Head, Finance & Accounting Department Head, and Corporate Services Section Head. Winning bidder is given up to November 30, 2012, 5:00 PM only to any bid amount.

6. Clarifications or queries may be carried during business hours to IPC Corporate Services Section at landline number (02) 757 9077 or (049) 541 4324 local 201.

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Telefax 913-9619

Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City Branch
401-0442 / 359-4038
Telefax 695-3940

South Harbour, Manila Branch
Trunkline 523-8531
loc. 155 or 116
Telefax 528-0313

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
U.P. Complex, Commonwealth Ave.
Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 929-3300/929-6196

INVITATION TO BID
PROCUREMENT OF SERVICE VEHICLES

1. The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) through the General Appropriations Act (GAA)(FY'13) and Agencia Española de Cooperacion Internacional para Desarrollo (AECID)-(GRI) fund intends to apply the total amount of EIGHT MILLION PESOS (8M) (Indefinite) as follows:

LOT No.	QUANTITY	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ABC
1	5 - units	4x2, 4UV or 4x2 SUV 4 Cylinder Diesel Engine Euro II Compliant 4-5 speed Manual Transmission Minimum seating Capacity of 6 passengers 13", 14" or 15" rim	P 8,000,000.00

Being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payment under the contract for the Procurement of (Service Vehicles. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the Bid Opening.

2. Interested Bidders may obtain a complete set of Bidding Documents starting November 12, 2012, Tuesday upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) to the Finance and Management Office (FMO) CHR Office, U.P. Complex, Commonwealth Ave., Diliman, Quezon City.

3. The Commission on Human Rights will hold a Pre-bid Conference open to all interested parties on November 19, 2012, 9:30 a.m. Friday, at third floor, CHR Multi-purpose Hall.

4. Deadline for the submission of bids shall be on November 29, 2012, 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, at the Conference Room, 2nd Floor CHR Office, U.P. Complex, Diliman, Quezon City. Immediately after the deadline, bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

5. The Bids and Awards Committee of the Commission on Human Rights reserves the right to reject any Bid, to cancel the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders.

Atty. JAGGERLINE B. VELORIA-MEJIA
Chairman- Bids and Awards Committee
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
SAAC Bldg., U.P. Complex, Diliman, Quezon City

(PEI – Nov. 4, 2012)

JOB Market CAREER EXPO 2012
NOVEMBER 3 & 4, 2012
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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

JACKLYN DOMINGO **MARYN CAPISTRANO**

This is to inform the public that the above persons **JACKLYN DOMINGO** (Audit staff) and **MARYN CAPISTRANO** (Accounting staff) are no longer connected to G.R. MANINGAS, CONSTRUCTOR, INC., effective June 30, 2012. Primarily, MARYN CAPISTRANO is facing a criminal complaint for QUALIFIED THEFT at the Office of the City Prosecutor of Mandaluyong.

Any transaction entered into by those persons after the said date will not be honored by the company.

hire now www.jobmarketonline.com

For SALE

Lot 1 Subdivision Plan of Lots with Road Widening Situated at Brgy. Buhay Sharpsville, City (Locality)

Area: 1,000 sq.m. Price: ₱ 1,000,000.00 Contact #: 09 [illegible]

Location: Along [illegible] Subdivision

Description: Flat Terrain, Rectangular Lot, Corner Lot, Fronting Road Width: 12 meters

Information for Real Estate Brokers are welcome.

This site is accessible to the following:

1) De La Salle Medical Center
2) De La Salle University-Dasmarinas
3) Pope Nicolas Pizza and Resto
4) St. Paul Hospital
5) Sta. Rosa Tagaytay Road
6) Sta. Rosa Exit
7) Sta. Rosa Tagaytay Road
8) Sta. Rosa Exit
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99) Sta. Rosa Tagaytay Road
100) Sta. Rosa Exit

Republic of the Philippines
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS
Bids and Awards Committee
[illegible] Road, College, Laguna
Tel. Nos. (049) [illegible] Fax No. (049) 536-0330
bac-xxxxxxxx@gmail.com

Invitation to Bid for
CONSTRUCTION OF THREE (3) STOREY MATHEMATICS BUILDING, NPSD, COLLEGE, LAGUNA (Re-Bid)

The University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) through its Bids and Awards Committee invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to bid for the above mentioned project.

REFERENCE NO.	[illegible]-BAC-IT
LOCATION	NPSD, [illegible], LAGUNA
APPROVED BUDGET OF THE CONTRACT (ABC)	PHP [illegible]
PROJECT DURATION	[illegible]
FUNDING SOURCE	Government of the Philippines (GOP) through sPLA Reimbursement Fund (LRRF)
BIDDING MODE	PHP [illegible].00
PCAB CLASSIFICATION	Principal Classification: General Building Category: A Registration Particulars: Kind of Project: Building Enterprise Size Range (Minimum Requirement): Medium II
ISSUANCE OF BID DOCUMENTS	NOVEMBER 10 THRU 21, 2011 (Except Holidays) 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Price: P[illegible] (Non-refundable) Office: NPSD, LAGUNA Fax: [illegible]
DATE AND TIME OF SITE INSPECTION	NOVEMBER 14, 2011 10:00 AM	
DATE AND TIME OF PRE-BID CONFERENCE	NOVEMBER 14, 2011 1:30 PM (Open to all interested parties)	
DATE AND TIME OF BID OPENING	NOVEMBER 28, 2011 1:30 PM	

All particulars relative to eligibility check, bid security, performance security, period, confidentiality, evaluation of bids, post-qualification, and award of contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of RA 9184 and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The UPLB-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, declare a failure of bidding, and not award the contract without incurring any liability and accept an offer as may be considered most advantageous for the University.

Inquiries may be forwarded to Ms. Tess L. Duadilla, BAC Secretariat Chief at telephone nos. (49) 536-0330 or 536-2290.

(Sgd.) DELIA C. BARRIENTOS
Chair, BAC

Note: The Bid Bulletin No. 2 dated 04 October 2011 is not the previous project identification number nor date of Bid of 2011 in the project identification. Contact was established with Engr. Ariel Ilo to arrange with the project coordinator for the corresponding post

(PDIs Nov. 6, 2011)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DIVISION OF CAMARINES SUR
San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur

DepEd

INVITATION TO BID

The Duly Constituted Members of Camarines Sur Principal Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites bidders to submit their bids for the following contracts/ work/ goods/ services/ consultancy services:

Name of the Project	Location	Description	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
Food & Accommodation for the Training of Trainers on Gardening	Bureau of Corrections Sta. [illegible]	Number of Participants: [illegible] Inclusive Dates of Training: [illegible] Venue: [illegible] Food: Three (3) meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) and Two (2) snacks (am & pm) with free flowing coffee for participants and facilitators Accommodation: Air-conditioned room for overnight stay of participants/facilitators with comfortable bed and enough space for a student to lodge. City Business Inn is accredited Training Package: Work Orientation with Basic Gardening Skills Training Proper, Work Immersion and Simplified skills aside and Exam with [illegible]	Php [illegible].00

SOURCE OF FUND: [illegible]

1. Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the Approved Budget for the Contract.
2. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138. Only Bids from Bidders who possess the eligibility classes and the registration categories for the respective trade or discipline as stated in the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) and/or with the License Classification that LCCS shall advertise in the post-qualification stage in order to fully determine the capabilities of the bid to perform the contract, shall be considered. The Bidder's net worth shall not be less than the total ABC. The Bidder's Net Worth (NW) shall be computed in the Latest Calculated and Registered Balance Sheet (LCRBS) which was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
3. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Chairperson of [illegible] and purchase the Bidding Documents from the BAC Secretariat [illegible] upon payment of a non-refundable fee of [illegible] (Php [illegible].00) as required by [illegible].
4. A complete set of bidding documents will be available only to prospective bidders from the address below upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Php [illegible].00 (Bid Bulletin Cancer. The method of payment will be in Cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective bidder or his authorized representative.
5. The complete schedule of activities is listed as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Advertisement/Posting	November 7-21, 2011
2. Pre-bid Conference	November 8, 2011 10:00am DENR Building, Division of Camarines Sur
3. Submission of Bids	November 21, 2011 8:30 am BAC Secretariat Office, Division of Camarines Sur
4. Opening of Bids	November 21, 2011 8:30 am DENR Building, Division of Camarines Sur
5. Bid Evaluation	November 21, 2011
6. Post Qualification	November 22, 2011
7. Notice of Award	November 23, 2011

6. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the form of [illegible] Manager's Check. Bank draft/guarantee irrevocable letter of credit issued by a commercial or universal bank [illegible] or surety bonds callable on demand, in the amount of [illegible] of the ABC. Late Bids shall not be accepted. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
7. The Bidder Division of Camarines Sur reserves its unquestionable discretion to disqualify bidders for any cause/s involving and during the procedure of the bid.
8. The Capitol Division of Camarines Sur reserves the right to accept or reject any or portion, to declare the bidding void/s, and to waive any technicality to avoid the bidding process and to restart all activities. In the event of failure of bidding, and/or there is only one bidder/contractor allowed bidder, one any bidder who unsatisfactorily and damaged/s their award. Project Owner has the right award the delayed project to any contractor who has completed accomplishment to the Project Owner's BAC, is best recommended to be contractor.

For further information, refer to:

BAC Secretariat/Chairperson Bac
[illegible]
BAC Chairman
[illegible]
Dr. [illegible]
Head, BAC Secretariat
Provincial Capitol Complex
Tel. Nos. [illegible]
Fax No. [illegible]
Cell No. [illegible]
bac4publicworks@yahoo.com

Date of Publication: November 1-7, 2011
Effective Public Bulletin Boards at DepEd Sub-Bac
PHOOOTSN.image.jpg

(Sgd.) [illegible]
BAC Chairperson - Boards

(PDIs Nov. 6, 2011)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. VHONG P. ALCALA
Termination date: December 15, 2011

The general public is advised that the above named person with his position is NO LONGER CONNECTED to **AVEGA SALES CORP. (ASC).** We have ceased honouring all transactions entered by the above named person for and in behalf of the company effective on the date of his termination. Any representations made by Mr. Alcala for and on behalf of the company are not sanctioned nor shall they be honoured by Avega Sales Corp.

The Management, ASC South

(PDI - November 6, 2011)

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PEOPLE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With more than 1,800 corporate and individual members, 22 Chapters nationwide, and a number of industry, functional and other affiliate organizations under its umbrella, the People Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) is the oldest, largest, and the premier organization of people managers and Human Resource Management practitioners in the country. Internationally recognized – with affiliations and having held leadership positions in the World Federation of People Management Associations (WFPMA) and the Asia Pacific Federation of Human Resource Management (APFHRM) – PMAP believes that people are key to sustainable development. PMAP also sits in various national and regional policy making bodies and provides valuable input to the crafting and implementation of legislation, policies, and guidelines on human capital management and development. As such, we actively engage different stakeholders – from both the private and public sectors – on important Human Capital issues that impact the country's sustainability and competitiveness.

PMAP is looking for an Executive Director. The Executive Director serves as PMAP's Chief Operating Officer and reports directly to the elected President of the association, functioning on behalf of the Board of Directors. The PMAP Executive Director takes an active role in championing the Association's advocacies and leads the planning, execution, and evaluation of the Association's programs and services. He or she oversees the day-to-day operations of the PMAP Center and exercises supervision over the Center's professional staff.

The Executive Director also represents the Association in various internal and external activities and builds collaborative relationships with member-clients, volunteers, community groups and other professional associations, legislators and other public officials, and fundraisers/donors, in pursuit of PMAP's strategic goals.

To be successful in this position, candidate must possess proven leadership skills. We are looking for candidates who are strategic thinkers, with a good grasp of the issues and challenges around people management in the Philippines. Strong business and human resource management background will be an advantage. Actual experience in managing not-for-profit/voluntary organizations and some background in securing grants and the preparation of funding proposals is desired.

Successful candidate will receive competitive compensation with generous provisions for variable performance-based pay. Further, challenging work and the opportunity to make a strong and lasting impact on the management and development of Filipino human capital await the successful hire.

PMAP is an equal opportunity employer. Interested parties may send your resumes and cover letters to ED@pmap.org.ph.

UDHA FORA slated in key cities

HOW THE PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT sectors can team up in not only providing their shared vision but in actually accomplish their collective responsibility to house the homeless and develop the cities shall be the focus of the UDHA FORA, a series of conferences to be held in key cities of the country.

Florencio S. Dalalio Jr., national president of the Philippine Federation of Real Estate Service Professionals, Inc. (PFRESP) said this UDHA FORA is spearheading the joint undertaking of the private sector together with the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) aimed at helping our stakeholders, especially the local governments which are at the forefront of the UDHA implementations in the countryside, not only have a better understanding and appreciation of how the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA) can help them provide homes for their homeless constituents and at the same time develop their towns and cities.

Pete Sario, PFRESP Chairman, said that invitations have been sent out to interested stakeholders and to all Governors and Mayors, together with their local housing officials. Executive Secretary Paquito N. Ochoa, Jr. rejoiced all DILG and local officials to participate in the UDHA FORA by virtue of the DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2012-149 he signed last September 4, 2012. Sario said that if the local officials are indeed serious in their vital role as frontliners of their homeless constituents, the UDHA FORA can help them discover efficient new strategies in coping with their vital role and responsibilities in urban development through the UDHA FORA.

The UDHA FORA is an offshoot of the 1st National Conference on the Urban Development & Housing Act successfully held last June 14-15, 2012 at the Manila Hotel. Those interested to register can contact the PFRESP Secretariat at tel. nos. (02) 4520886/4564511 or text (0922)8705246 (Globe) or (0918)4389668 (Smart) (Sunday) or get more information from www.ncr21roadtowncar.blogspot.com

MAY TRABAHO DITO
Determinasyon ang susi.

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
AGUS 1, 2, 3, 4 / 5, 6, 7

INVITATION TO BID

FOR THE SALE OF ASSORTED TYPE OF OVERVOLTAGE/SURGE ARRESTER AND SERVICES INVOLVING POWER RANGE 201 KILOVOLTS (KV) TO 230 KV, AND 69KV RATED OR 100 MVA

"AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS

DATE OF ISSUANCE: **NOVEMBER 05, 2012**, 7:30 AM, TREASURY, AGUS 1, 2, 3, 4 / 5, 6, 7 POWER PLANTS, MAIN COMPOUND, BRGY. BALO-I, LINAMON, LANAO DEL NORTE, 9312

The National Power Corporation will conduct public bidding for the following:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	MIN. BID PRICE
SCHEDULE – I (APPLICABLE TO ALL INTERESTED BIDDERS)		
1	Underground Duct Bank Service Interface, 230 kV Transformer Line Positions, Underground Relay Shelter, Drainage System, Supplied Type 'A' Reflective Insulating Paint Treatment at CBTC and Test Office, Gas Service Shelf, Test Bridge, Perspective Plan and Profile Drawings, Underground Duct Bank Service Interface, Supplied Type 'A' Reflective Insulating Paint Treatment at CBTC	P 675,000.00 NO VAT
2	Underground Duct Bank Service Interface at MTC Pole Shelter, Perspective Plan and Profile Drawings, Supplied Type 'A' Reflective Insulating Paint Treatment at MTC Pole	P 675,000.00 NO VAT
3	Underground Duct Bank Service Interface at Gas Service Shelf, Perspective Plan and Profile Drawings, Supplied Type 'A' Reflective Insulating Paint Treatment at Gas Service Shelf	P 675,000.00 NO VAT
SCHEDULE – II (APPLICABLE TO ALL INTERESTED BIDDERS)		
4	Supply, Delivery and Installation of Gas Service Shelf, Complete with Accessories	P 1,125,000.00 NO VAT
SCHEDULE – III (APPLICABLE TO ALL INTERESTED BIDDERS)		
5	Supply, Delivery and Installation of Test Bridge, Complete with Accessories	P 1,125,000.00 NO VAT
SCHEDULE – IV (APPLICABLE TO ALL INTERESTED BIDDERS)		
6	Supply, Delivery and Installation of Test Bridge, Complete with Accessories	P 1,125,000.00 NO VAT
SCHEDULE – V (APPLICABLE TO ALL INTERESTED BIDDERS)		
7	Supply, Delivery and Installation of Test Bridge, Complete with Accessories	P 1,125,000.00 NO VAT
SCHEDULE – VI (APPLICABLE TO ALL INTERESTED BIDDERS)		
8	Supply, Delivery and Installation of Test Bridge, Complete with Accessories	P 1,125,000.00 NO VAT

The bid form will be issued to all interested bidders upon presentation of valid identification card and upon payment of a non-refundable bid fee in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) per schedule. Bids must be issued only to those who have paid the bid fee. Deadline for issuance of bid fee forms is one hour before the deadline for submission of bids.

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT THE ABOVE-STATED ADDRESS.

1. Issue the completed bid proper of the bidder issued by the bids and/or office (BIR Form 2303);
2. CERTIFICATION OF INCOME TAX RETURN (ITR);
3. PROPOSED BIDS' DEPOSIT IN THE FORM OF CASH, BIDDER'S MANAGER'S CHECK, BANK DRAFT OR THE REQUESTED AMOUNT;
4. PARTY TO SUBMIT BIDS SHALL SUBMIT WRITTEN BID, RESPONSIVE, FORMAT IS ATTACHED, & SIGNED BY AUTHORIZED PERSON (TO PACK IT IN);
5. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOVEMBER 05, 2012 PUBLIC BIDDING ATTACHED TO THE BIDDER'S BID DOCUMENTS IS THE BIDDER'S OBLIGATION TO KNOW, UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT AND ACCEPTANCE TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

For inquiries, interested bidders may call our Liaison Officers in Linamon, Mr. Wilfredo Bitong (0918) Rosales at (0905) 3817 Head Office, Quezon Avenue Corner, Cor. Bgy. Road, Diliman, Quezon City, with telephone number 927-5181 / 927-5182.

PATERSELO MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
(Sgd.) **ROLEO B. TUAZON, JR.**
Officer-In-Charge
Materials Management Department

UNO – November 4, 2012

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

SECTION I. INVITATION TO BID
FOR PROVISION OF SPECIAL COURIER SERVICES
(ALC Reference No. 2013-000CO)

1. The Commission on Elections (COMELEC), through the General Appropriations Act for 2012, intends to apply the sum of Eighteen Million Two Hundred Seven Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Nine Pesos and 15/100 (Php18,207,579.15), inclusive of taxes, fees and other charges, to payment for the provision of courier services.

Lot No.	AREAS		ABC (Php)
1	NCR		884,483.07
2	Abra, Ilocos, Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga, Mt. Province		1,071,163.50
3	Region I (Ilocos Region)		
	Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Pangasinan		
3	Cagayan	except Municipalities of Calayan, Aparri and Gattaran	884,143.50
	Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino		
4	Region III (CENTRAL LUZON)		
	Aurora, Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, Zambales		1,358,949.75
5	Region IV-A (CALABARZON)		
	Quezon	except Municipalities of Agdangan, Padre Burgos, Pitogo, Unisan, Gen. Nakar, Infanta, Real, Mauban, Atimonan, Plaridel, Pagbilao, Sariaya, Tayabas, Lucban, Candelaria and Dolores	1,713,611.46
	Batangas, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal		
6	Region V (BICOL REGION)		884,588.07
	Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate and Sorsogon		
7	Region VI (WESTERN VISAYAS)		1,015,913.50
	Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo and Negros Occidental		
8	Region VII (Central Visayas)		1,008,914.15
	Bohol, Cebu, Negros Oriental and Siquijor		
9	Region VIII (Eastern Visayas)		
	Leyte, Samar, Southern Leyte, Northern Samar, Biliran and Eastern Samar		1,010,554.50
10	Region IX (Western Mindanao)		
	Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur and Zamboanga Sibugay		772,063.05
11	Region X (Northern Mindanao)		
	Bukidnon, Camiguin, Lanao del Norte, Misamis Occidental and Misamis Oriental		886,127.20
12	Region XI (Southern Mindanao)		
	Compostela Valley, Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur and Davao Oriental		750,830.9
13	Region XII (Central Mindanao) and ARMM		
	North Cotabato, South Cotabato, Sarangani, Sultan Kudarat and Maguindanao (ARMM)		1,761,794.40
14	Region XIII (CARAGA)		
	Surigao del Sur	except Bislig City and Municipalities of Barobo, Hinatuan, Lingig, Lianga and Tagbina	823,696.05
	Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Dinagat Islands and Surigao del Norte		
15	LUZON PROVINCES (ABC)		
	Batanes Province, Municipalities of Calauan, Kalayaan and Siniloan in Laguna Province, 19 Municipalities of Pangasinan province (refer to Lot no. 3) and all provinces of Region VI (Mimaropa), Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan and Romblon		1,166,015.12
16	VISAYAS PROVINCES (ABC)		
	Biliran Province, Municipalities of Calubian, Leyte and Salcedo in Eastern Samar, Municipalities of Barobo, Hinatuan, Lingig, Lianga and Tagbina in Surigao del Sur, Bislig City and Municipalities of Tandag, Cortes, Carmen and Placer in Surigao del Norte (refer to Lot no. 13)		1,011,665.05
TOTAL			15,207,579.15

Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) per Category
(Documents and Equipment)

	Category of Cargoes	Weight (in kilograms)	
		Outside	Within
	Documents (Postage/Parcel Post)		
1	Mail Letter (not more than 20 kgs. (base)	84.07	60.61
2	Documents (up to 5 kgs (base)	494.41	356.51
3	In excess of 5 kgs. (rate per kilo)	98.91	60.61
	Equipment		
1	Less than 5 kgs. (base)	84.07	60.61
2	5 kgs to 10 kgs. (base)	494.41	356.51
3	In excess of 10 kgs. (rate per kilo)	98.91	60.61

Computing Formula (Minimum of 50 kgs.) (5 of 10 and 10)

	Parameters	Outside	Within/Luzon
1	Rate per Kilo	98.91	60.61
2	Cut of Zone Delivery (CZD) (per package)	84.07	60.61

1. Rates are "ALL IN" for documents.
2. Rates are "ALL IN" plus valuation/insurance charge for equipment.
3. Rates in excess of five (5) kilos shall be computed up to two (2) decimal places (e.g. 10 kilograms, cargo dispatched more than 5 kilos = Php98.91 (5 kilos rate) + Php 296.46 = Php 395.37 (rate of 6 to 9kgs.) + Php 493.46(10kg rate).
4. For Lot Fifteen (15) and Sixteen (16), rates shall be computed weight of cargo in kilo per kilo + weight of cargo in CZD rate per kilo (Minimum of 50 kgs) (Based on formula).
5. Valuation/Insurance Charge: Php1.00/in every Php100.00 declared value for the left except for documents with minimum valuation.
6. Valuation/Insurance Charge: Php5.00 for every Php100.00 declared value vis-a-vis except for documents with minimum valuation.
7. The volume weight shall be computed: Length in cubic cm/age of cargo in centimeter divided by 6,000 for the destinations Cebu Puerto Princesa, Davao and Cagayan de Oro and Zamboanga City (Mindanao). For other destinations, divide by 5,000.

Bids exceeding the reasonable ABC per lot of each component shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.

2. The COMELEC may revise rate for the said courier services. Bidders should have accredited within five (5) years before the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly in Section II Instructions to Bidders.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the bidding documents.
4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the COMELEC and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00A.M. to 5:00P.M. Mondays to Fridays, except holidays.

THE BAC SECRETARIAT
c/o The Administrative Services Department
Commission on Elections
Intramuros, Manila
Contact Numbers: 527-9346, 527-0127

5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on November 5 to November 26, 2012 from the address given and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of **Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php20,000.00)**. It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PHILGEPS) and the website of COMELEC (www.comelec.gov.ph), provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
6. The COMELEC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on **November 13, 2012, 10:00 a.m. the morning**, at the COMELEC Session Hall 3rd Floor, Palacio del Gobernador, Intramuros, Manila, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.
7. Bids must be delivered to the BAC Secretariat, COMELEC Session Hall, on **November 26, 2012, not later than 10:00 a.m. the morning.** COMELEC time. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in Clause 18 of Instructions to Bidders. **Late bids shall not be accepted.**
8. Bid opening shall be on **November 26, 2012, right after the submission of bids,** at the COMELEC Session Hall. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.
9. The COMELEC reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. JOSE TOMAS P. VELASCO**
Director
Bids and Awards Committee

DOH – November 4, 2012

People, Events & Products

E-mail: supplements@inquirer.com.ph
Supplements Head: Jong Arcadio

Bistro celebrates 50 stores in 2012!

WHILE 2012 stands for perfect vision, Bistro Group aptly expresses its success in the food industry with the 50/50 Vision and Beyond, a major milestone in its sumptuous history marked by the opening of its 50th store this year.

All of its restaurants, a mix of 12 homegrown and homegrown brands, enjoy immense popularity from hard-starving and fun-loving Filipinos including loyal customers who grew up eating in a Bistro restaurant with families and friends. And as Bistro cooks up new concepts to add to its portfolios, excitement simmers in the food arena because guests just look forward to more good times ahead.

To date, Bistro has close to 50 casual dining restaurants including international franchises like Indiana's, 'Till Friday's, Fish & Co, Ma Mon Luc, Balgogi Brothers, Village Tavern and more Personal and Modern Shanghai as well as homegrown brands Flapjacks, The Steak Station, Pig Out and Krazy Garlic.

"We don't stop at just one or two concepts. Bistro Group is the country's home based restaurant company that operates as many brands as it can," said Bistro Group president and chief executive officer Nicky Lao Po Chuan.

YOU'LL BE hard pressed to better what the menu ingredients are, the succulent and delicious Bistro Group's Tuscan Salad.

Bistro Group's success is also attributed to its dedicated people who are ready to try out anything new to their palates. And as Bistro celebrates 50 stores (and even more than that number) this year, we continue to serve fresh and restaurant concepts infused with innovation, great service and lots of good food," said Jean Paul Montreuil, COO of Bistro Group of Restaurants. Its first restaurant, a franchise of US-based 'TGIFriday's, opened in 1994 in Glorietta 5. It was a trailblazer as it paved the way for the immense popularity of casual dining in the country.

In celebration to this store milestone, The Bistro Group is bolstering with special offers and promotions as a way of thanking its customers for their patronage for the past years.

Say hurray! From now until the end of the year because Bistro amplifies the meaning of "fun" when dining across all its concepts. From everyday of the week specials to irresistible 50 percent price-offs on widely-popular and signature dishes to delicious freebies, guests are in for exciting months ahead! Food lovers have reasons to rejoice! For example, there are great offers on the bonchons (fun means "huge") platters at Indiana's, discounts at Krazy Garlic and treats of frozen (and flavors) at Flapjacks. What's more, there's always something to look forward on weekdays at 'TGIFriday's, a big blow-out at Ma Mon Luc, Village Tavern and Pig out, weekend treats at Fish & Co., a feast fest at Balgogi Brothers, bottomless drinks and special offers at new store openings. The Bistro Group also has this one-in-for-all planning in the country.

THESE for Mr. A signature supplier at TGIFriday's

To celebrate its 50th store milestone, The Bistro Group is bolstering with special offers and promotions as a way of thanking its customers for their patronage for the past years.

Say hurray! From now until the end of the year because Bistro amplifies the meaning of "fun" when dining across all its concepts. From everyday of the week specials to irresistible 50 percent price-offs on widely-popular and signature dishes to delicious freebies, guests are in for exciting months ahead! Food lovers have reasons to rejoice! For example, there are great offers on the bonchons (fun means "huge") platters at Indiana's, discounts at Krazy Garlic and treats of frozen (and flavors) at Flapjacks. What's more, there's always something to look forward on weekdays at 'TGIFriday's, a big blow-out at Ma Mon Luc, Village Tavern and Pig out, weekend treats at Fish & Co., a feast fest at Balgogi Brothers, bottomless drinks and special offers at new store openings. The Bistro Group also has this one-in-for-all planning in the country.

MCT events holds Funtas-Tech sale on November

MCT EVENTS MANAGEMENT HOSTS Memorandum of agreements with NOW! Rentland, TPC Rents, and Tipid PC for partnership in the first PUBlish TECH! Anywhere Sale and Infotainment Technology Expo to be held at the New Megatown in Libis, Quezon City from November 30 to December 2, 2012.

The 3-day events will showcase a great variety of products and services, namely: Mobile Phones, Digital Imaging Gear, Laptops and Computer Devices, Software, Gaming Equipment (PC, console, and mobile-based), Wireless and Convergence Devices, Emerging Technology and Technology Related Services, Content Providers, Audio Equipment, High Performance Home Theater Systems, In-Vehicle Technology, and Home Appliances and Security Merchandise.

"Aside from the great deals, visitors will also benefit from the free seminars and other activities that will be hosted by Tipid PC, PDC Inter, Game Developers Association of the Philippines (GDAP) and International Game Developers Association (IGDA). We are conducting these free seminars for a most rainwater experience for technology enthusiasts under one roof," MCT CM Mike Tompis said. GDAP is the largest association of game enthusiasts in the country.

MCT Events is a premiere management company that specializes in designing, packaging, and implementing memorable high- impact corporate and social events. They team produce and manage their own consumer fairs and expos such as the Megabazaars Sale and the Rizondo Wholesale Sale.

For inquiries, please contact Ms Jonathan Reyes or Ms. Mitzi Dela Cruz of MCT Events Management at (02) 949-3490; 376-0302; 709-2355; 582-1546 or email them through mctevents@gmail.com/ mctemm@gmail.com.

Training on the Requirements for GMP in the Handling and Processing of Foods

THE FOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (FDC) of the National Food Authority (NFA) will conduct a training course on the "Requirements for Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in the Handling and Processing of Foods" on November 14, 2012 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the FDC Compound, FTI Complex, Taguig City.

The training course aims to upgrade the understanding of participants on the requirements for good manufacturing practices (GMP) in food plants and its attendant codex food conditions. It is designed for quality control and food plant supervisors and operators who have not yet attended a GMP course in FDC.

The course fee is P2,000 per participant inclusive of training materials, lunch and snacks.

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Imelda S. Bautista of FDC NFA at telephone box 806-4604 to 806-4606, 806-4478, 806-4605 ; fax No. 806-4610 and 806-4601 and or e-mail address: info@fdc.net.ph.

Rizal High School 25th Grand Alumni Homecoming

RIZAL HIGH SCHOOL PASIG is celebrating its 25th Grand Alumni Homecoming on Dec 1, 2012 @ RHS Track & Field Oval, Pasig City with the "Proud to be Rizalian - The Legacy continues!" Be there & be counted as we try to break the Guinness record for the World's Largest Alumni Homecoming. Batch '87 will be there we invite their new Homeless/Chronically Pony on Dec 10, 2012 ... details @ facebook.com/rizalian87.

NUEVA ECIJA I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Bo. Mabini, San Isidro, Nueva Ecija
Tel. Nos.: (044) 886-0203 / (044) 486-2826
Email Address: neeca3@yahoo.com

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The **Nueva Ecija 3 Electric Cooperative, Inc.**, with office address at Brgy. Mabini, San Isidro, Nueva Ecija, invites all qualified bidders to bid for **Construction of 69 KV Line in Guimba, Jaen and San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.**

LOT 1 – Materials Requirement
LOT 2 – Labor Requirement

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding process. Interested bidders shall comply and submit the following pre-bidding requirements:

a. Company Profile
b. Business Registration and Permit
c. BIR/PAG Certificate
d. List of clients for three (3) years
e. Financial Statement
f. Latest Income Tax Return
g. PCAB License

Submission of eligibility requirements shall be on November 5-12, 2012 and Notice of Accreditation shall be issued on November 13, 2012. Accreditation Fee is Three Thousand Pesos (Php3,000.00) thereunder are the details of the competitive selection process:

ACTIVITIES	DATE	TIME
Issuance of Bid Documents	November 5-12, 2012	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

LOT-1 MATERIALS Requirement

Pre-Bid Conference	November 16, 2012	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 n.n.
Final Bidding	November 21, 2012	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 n.n

LOT-2 LABOR Requirement

Pre-Bid Conference	November 16, 2012	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Final Bidding	November 21, 2012	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

All interested bidders may access and bid documents from BAC Secretariat upon payment of non-refundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00) and bid fee of Two Thousand Pesos (Php 2,000.00). Posting of bid bond is either in the form of cash or manager's check which is equivalent to five percent (5%) of the total bid price. The issuance of Notice of Award for Lot-1 and Lot-2 will be on November 23, 2012, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

NEECO I, hereby reserves the right to reject any and all applications to pre-qualify and to bid without offering any reason, when any defect therein.

BOD and BAC/BEC COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION AND TO BID

Transmission Line and Substation Projects Planned for Procurement by NGCP

The **NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NGCP)** invites Contractors, Manufacturers, and Suppliers to apply for accreditation for the following projects planned for procurement for CY 2012/2013:

1. San Esteban-Laoag 230kV Transmission Project (Transmission Line Portion) (Sp12 SEL1PVTL1-L1-013)
2. Santiago-Tuguegarao 230kV Line 2 Project (Transmission Line Portion) (Sp12 STL2LT1-L1-015)
3. Santiago-Tuguegarao 230kV Line 2 Project (Substation Portion) and Luzon Substation Expansion Project 4 (Santiago & Tuguegarao Substation Portions) (Sp12 STL2LT1-L1-015)
4. Binga-San Manuel 230kV Transmission Project Stage 2 and Ambuklao-Binga 230kV Transmission Line Upgrading Project (Transmission Line Portion) (Sp12 BSMT1&AMT1UPGTL-L1-L2-011)
5. Binga-San Manuel 230kV Transmission Project Stage 2 (San Manuel Substation Portion), Luzon Substation Expansion Project 4 (San Manuel Substation Portion) & Ambuklao-Binga 230kV Upgrading Project (Ambuklao Substation Portion) (Sp12 BSMT1-L1-042)
6. Bulacan-Pinamar 115kV Transmission Line Project (Transmission Line Portion) (Sp12 BPTP (TL) MI-010)
7. Bulacan-Pinamar 115kV Transmission Project (Substation Portion) (Sp12 BPTP (SS MI-011)
8. Bauladan Tap/Bauladan Substation 230kV Line Upgrading Project (Transmission Line Portion) (Sp12 BTBLTL-L1-010)
9. Malaya-Botocan (Dam/San) Transmission Project (Substation Portion) and Malaya-Botocan Substation Expansion (Sp 12MBTLSMBSTP) MI -009
10. Sultan Kudarat (Nuling) Substation Expansion Project (Sp 12 SKNSSTP08- 009)

Interested bidders may download the application for Accreditation at www.ngcp.ph and submit the same including the requirements to:

Ms. Nida P. Abay, Section Head, Procurement Support Services
Procurement Management Department
National Grid Corporation of the Philippines
Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100
Tel. (+632) 981-2210 npabay@ngcp.ph

For further inquiries, interested bidders may get in touch with Mr. Marciano L. Hernandez, Division Head, Technical Procurement at (+632) 981-2211 or via email mlhernandez@ngcp.ph with the same above office address.

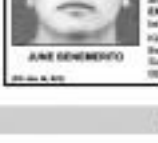
(Sgd.) **MR. ANTHONY L. ALMEDA**
Chief Administrative Officer

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Please be informed that **MICHELLE TAPIA** and **EMILY LITE**, whose pictures appear above, are no longer connected with SUAREZ & SONS, INC. Any transactions with them from September 27, 2012 onwards will not be honored by the company.

Payments received with receipt booklets covering booklets 1138, 1172-1176, 1194, 1196, 1280 shall likewise not be honored by the company.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



JUNE BENEMERITO

Notice is hereby given to the public that **MR. JUNE BENEMERITO** whose picture appears herein is no longer connected with **ROYAL FISHER ENTERPRISES INC.** effective October 9, 2012.

Any transaction entered into by **MR. JUNE BENEMERITO** for and in behalf of **ROYAL FISHER ENTERPRISES INC.** will no longer be honored.

Kindly report all transactions with the named person to Ms. Marigenee Suyam at numbers 892-8000 or 0923-2576674.

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION AND TO BID

Two (2) Year Service Agreement for Janitorial and Allied Services, Maintenance and Allied Services, Skilled and Technical Services, and Clerical Services Planned for Procurement by NGCP

The **NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NGCP)** invites Agencies, Contractors and Suppliers to apply for accreditation for the Two (2) Year Service Agreement for **Janitorial and Allied Services, Maintenance and Allied Services, Skilled and Technical Services, and Clerical Services** planned for procurement for CY 2012 for the following Offices:

1. Head Office (Main, Luzon System Operation, National Control Center Buildings and Annex Hanger Office)
2. North Luzon Regional Head/Project Offices
3. South Luzon Regional/District/Project Offices
4. Visayas Regional/District/Project Offices
5. Mindanao Regional/District/Project Offices

Interested bidders may download the application for Accreditation at www.ngcp.ph and submit the same including the requirements to:

Ms. Nida P. Abay, Section Head, Procurement Support Services
Procurement Management Department
National Grid Corporation of the Philippines
Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100
Tel. (+632) 981-2210 npabay@ngcp.ph

For further inquiries, interested bidders may get in touch with Ms. Ms. Ronilo B. Oliveta, Division Head, Non-Technical Procurement at (+632) 981-2207 or via email rboliveta@ngcp.ph with the same above office address.

(Sgd.) **MR. ANTHONY L. ALMEDA**
Chief Administrative Officer

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Cubao: 421-1408; 421-2192
Makati: 893-5251; 811-4812; 811-4861
Manila: 523-0951 loc. 115 or 116; 528-0311
Mkte: 401-4942; 209-4828; 403-1941 (Telefax)

Inquirer

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.
Matthew 10:39

COMMODORE GENARO "GenieGering" MACARAEG FRIAS, SR. AFP (Ret)

peacefully passed away on Friday, October 26, 2012 at the age of 83.

In celebration of life and worshipful service will be held at 6:00 p.m. Monday, November 5 at the Holy Child Church, Bonifacio Naval Station, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City. A celebration mass in the Holy Child Chapel at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday. Interment at shell plot in the columbarium area at 11:00 a.m. at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Taguig City.

Genie was born September 15, 1925 in Malabon, Rizal to Ramon de Santos and Rosalia Macaraeg Frias. He was a member of the Philippine Military Academy class of 1951 and served as the commanding officer of the 2nd Ship Division Command (SDC) in Sangley Point, Cavite City.

Genie is survived by his wife, Rhonella Pedia Cristobal; sons, Ramon Jose Jr., Ramon Antonio III, Rodolfo Victor III and Reynaldo; daughters, Maria Rosalia Macaraeg and Maria Celia Concepcion; sons-in-law, Jeffrey Paul Tolentino and Raul Reynaldo Concepcion; daughters-in-law, Lupen Gloria Cruz, and Lynn Elizabeth Enriquez Tan; and Ramon Rafael Frias, Jacob Frias, Nathaniel Paul Frias, Joshua Frias Tolentino and Rachel Gabriel Ryan and Robyn Marie Concepcion.

M ✠ J

Marilou Diaz-Abaya

We, the family of the late Marilou Diaz-Abaya, (Deceased October 05, 2012) wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to our relatives, friends, and to all those who shared with us their condolences and most solemn moments in our time of sorrow. We thank everyone for the prayer cards, offerings, and your presence during the wake and mass for the last rites.

With all the love and kindness that our family received, we feel truly blessed.

We sincerely hope that all the cherished moments and memories you have all shared with Marilou will remain in your hearts and that her light may continue to shine through us all.

We thank you all.

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For DTI-NCR Permit No. 8686, Series of 2012. Log on to www.stpeter.com.ph
DeathCareWeek

BARTOLOME LOPEZ JILOCA, SR.

passed away in the grace of our Lord on 01 November 2012 at the age of 92 after living a life full of accomplishments, joy, love, and happiness.

His bereaved wife, **Evangelista Sandelia Jiloca**

His siblings and in-laws: Eladio (†) and Dolores (†), Anastacia, Victoria (†), Timoteo and Daning, and Gloria (†) and Ricardo Lanera (†)

His children and in-laws:

Wilfredo and Leaning
Eduardo and Bella
Josephine and Elsner Francisco
Bartolome, Jr. and Betty
Bienvenido and Telen (†) Abenoza
Estrellieta and Constancio Santos
Richmond (†) and Marie

His grandchildren and great-grandchildren:

Wenny and Tenth Tan; Jenath and Ilko
Jay-jay, Ryan, and Jeremy Jiloca
Bernard and Jing Jiloca; Tiffany and Timothy
Shing Jiloca-Torremanta; Cyrille Stephanie
Hazel Jiloca and Jeremar Pobrerdo; Tori and Pipay
Gerald Jiloca
April Jiloca
Crystal Anne Jiloca Francisco
Jol Alyssum, Jamaille Ayla, and Justine Abenoza
Mark Estebera Jiloca

Request the prime readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Don Bosco Chapel, Pasong Tamo, Makati City
Funeral mass will be on Wednesday, 07 November 2012 at 08:00 H.
Interment will follow at the Loyola Memorial Park, Paranaque City

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."
John 11:25-26

TERESITA "TESS" BELLEN-PADILLA

Loving wife, Mommy, sister, friend and Church servant

has joined the Lord on November 1, 2012.

Her remains lie in state at the
Jose Rizal Chapel of the
La Funeraria Paz-Sucat
(inside Manila Memorial Park)

Cremation will be on Monday, November 5, 2012
at 2:00 P.M. after the 12:00 noon Mass.

Her husband, *Severino*, sister *Liliane*, brother *Luis*,
nieces and nephews, and other relatives
request prayers for her eternal life.

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." — John 11:25-26

Tommy Ilegue

Died in the Grace of our Lord
on October 30, 2012 at the age of 47.

His remains lie in state at St. James Chapel,
St. Peter Memorial Chapels, Novaliches, Quezon City.
Interment will be on November 4, 2012, 2:00 pm
at Holy Cross, Quezon City.
The family requests the prime readers to pray
for the eternal repose of his soul.

ST. PETER CHAPELS

"I have created in the sunrise. My hands shall reach to the sunrise. I will sing to the Lord, who feeds me good things; you I will sing to the name of the Lord who must high" (Ps 15:6).

Juan Pedraza Ramos

died in the grace of Our Lord on October 30, 2012.
His family requests prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

Interment will be on Monday, November 5, 2012, at the Heritage Park, Barangka Drive, Barangka Ibaba, Mandaluyong City, after the 12:45 pm Holy Mass at the Church of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (Nilo Isaac Rodriguez Ave., formerly Broadway Ave.) New Manila, Quezon City.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Philippine Foundation for Cultural and Educational Development, Inc. will be appreciated.

The wake is at #9 Allison Street, Barangay Pasadena, San Juan, Metro Manila. Viewing time is from 1:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me courage..." **Psalm 23:4**

Francia Refuerzo Albis

Died in the Grace of the Lord
on October 31, 2012 at the age of 61.

Her remains lie in state at Iglesia Ni Cristo
Church, Novaliches, Quezon City.
Interment will be on November 5, 2012, 10:00 am
at Bonanza Memorial Park, Quezon City.
The family requests the prime readers to pray
for the eternal repose of her soul.

ST. PETER CHAPELS

Reynaldo Bernabe Diaz

ST. PETER CHAPELS

Caridad Alino Cristobal

ST. PETER CHAPELS

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ● Copy of Death Certificate ● Any identification document (ID)
DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT - MESSAGE OF THANKS - DEATH ANNIVERSARY
- REQUIRED - FREE OBIT DESIGN

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments